설희 4

강경옥

pop toon

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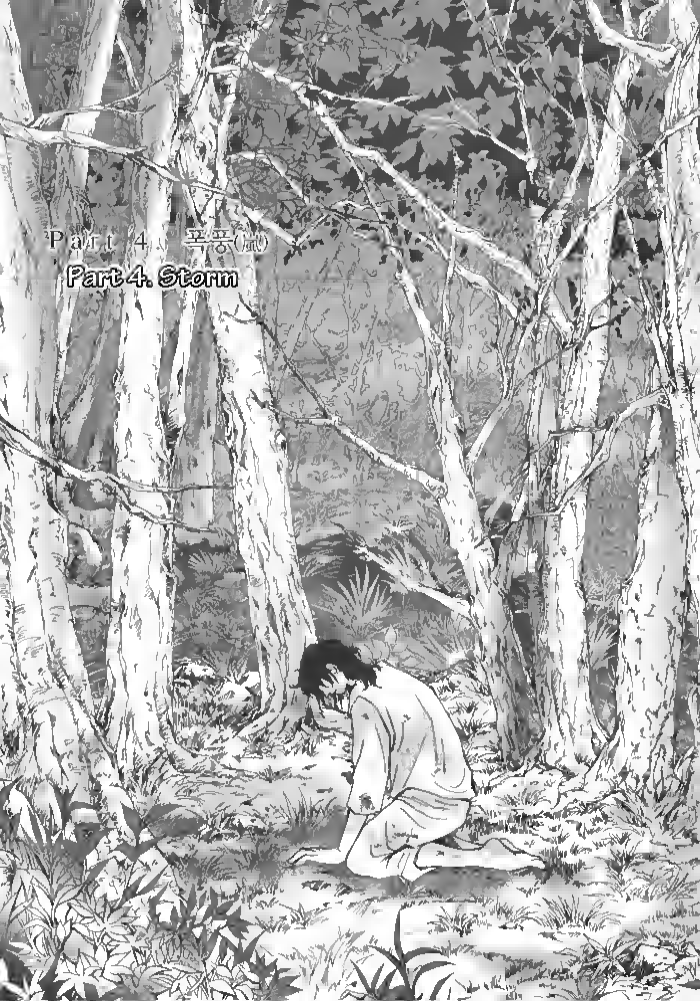
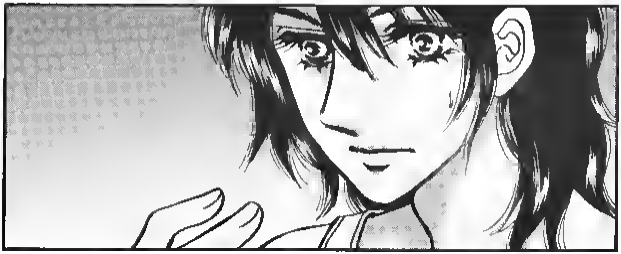
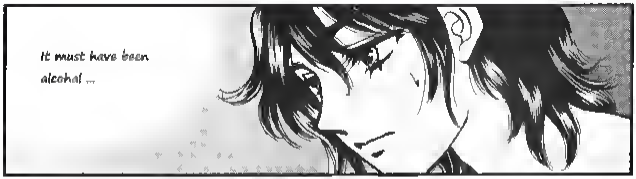
pop toon


Part 4. 폭풍(前)
Part 4. Storm



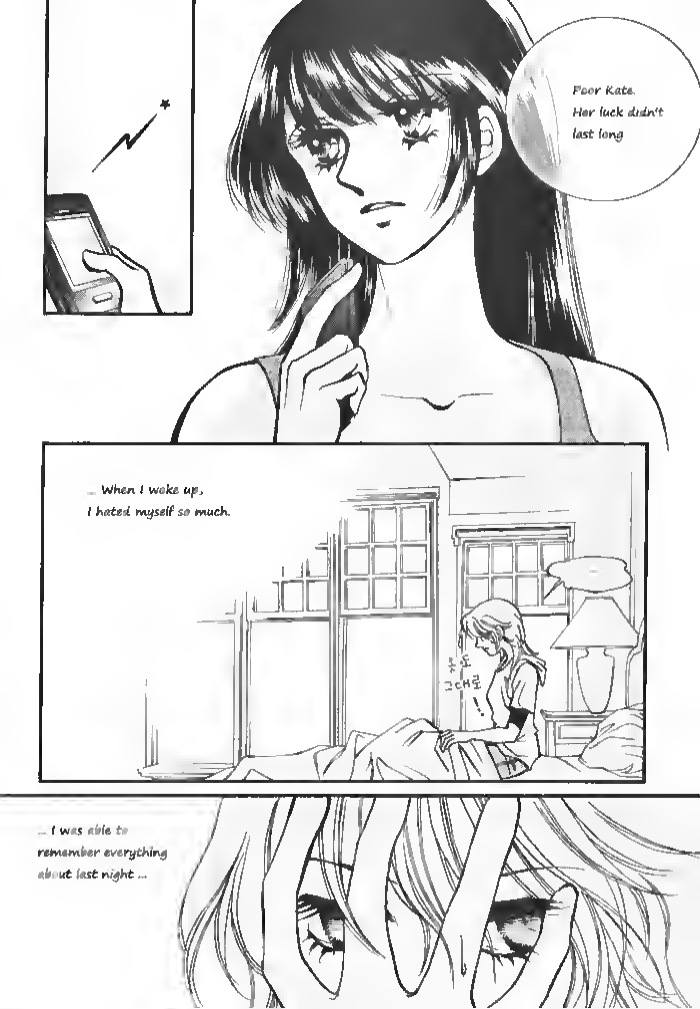
What the—
This is exactly why I didn't want to see her.
That dream again—

What was with the gloomy aura in the forest ?
And
Was that me in it ?


It must have been alcohol ...

It must be why
Yeah let's just put it that way
I don't want to think about it ..

Ok... I see.
Fine
I will depart today
I will call you once I get there


Poor Kate.
Her luck didn't
last long
... When I woke up,
I hated myself so much.
... I was able to
remember everything
about last night ...

I didn't do anything too embarrassing ... But I felt so shameful.
I mean .. I am me, and Seol Hui is Seol Hui ...
Still .....
Hungry ! Food !
Ah, okay
I will be leaving for a while
I want you to look after the house. Call me if you have to
Where are you going ?
Something happened in USA.

My step mother died apparently
It looks like her wealth is coming to me, so I have to go
How am I .. supposed to react now ?
Um, I don't know
How did she die ? Illness ? Accident ?
Well, they say it was a car accident

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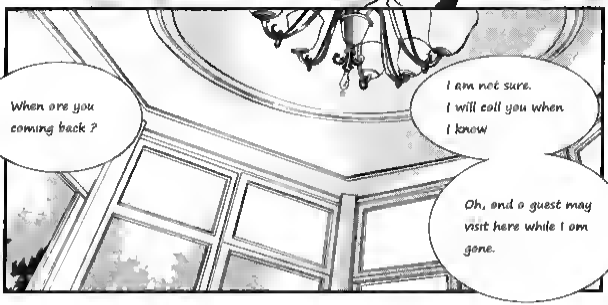
But it looks like it was a con job by a Chinese mafia.
I guess she refused to pay for a job she hired them for
That was foolish of her She should have known better than that

Am I dreaming ?

Because Seol Hui was explaining the whole situation so neutrally, realism was lacking

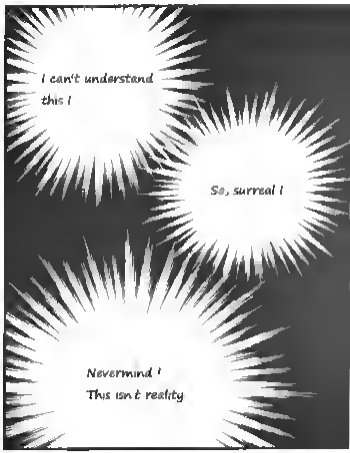


If he comes here give me the guest room upstairs and look after him.
If you do need an extra hand, hire a helper Use the card I gave you.
Guest ? What kind of guest ?
The Korean-Japanese I told you about.
Ah, "Chun San" ?
Can he speak Korean ?
I can't speak Japanese.
His Korean should be good enough for communication.
Look after him.

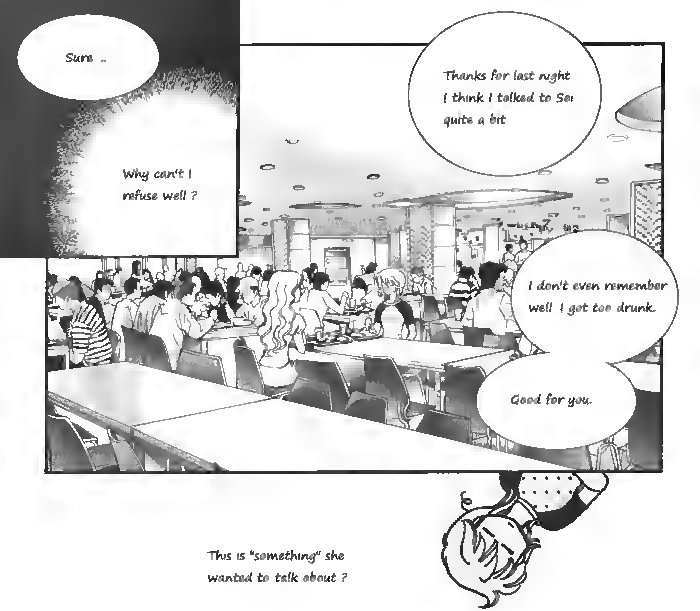
She was leaving as if she was going on a trip, so I didn't feel like giving her my regards to the dead

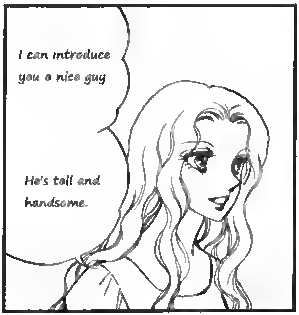
I guess her step mother didn't mean much to her

Well I don't know about her much at all

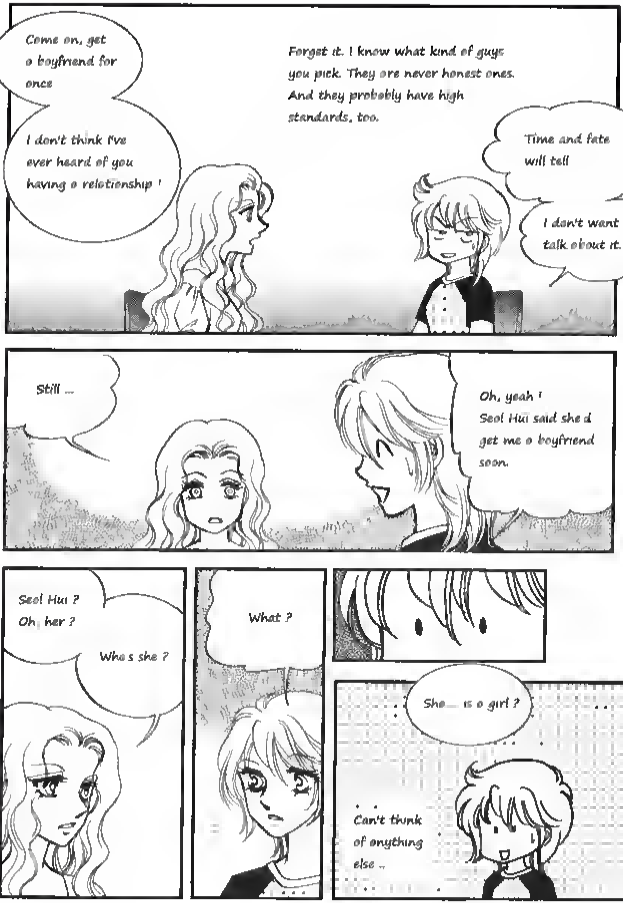


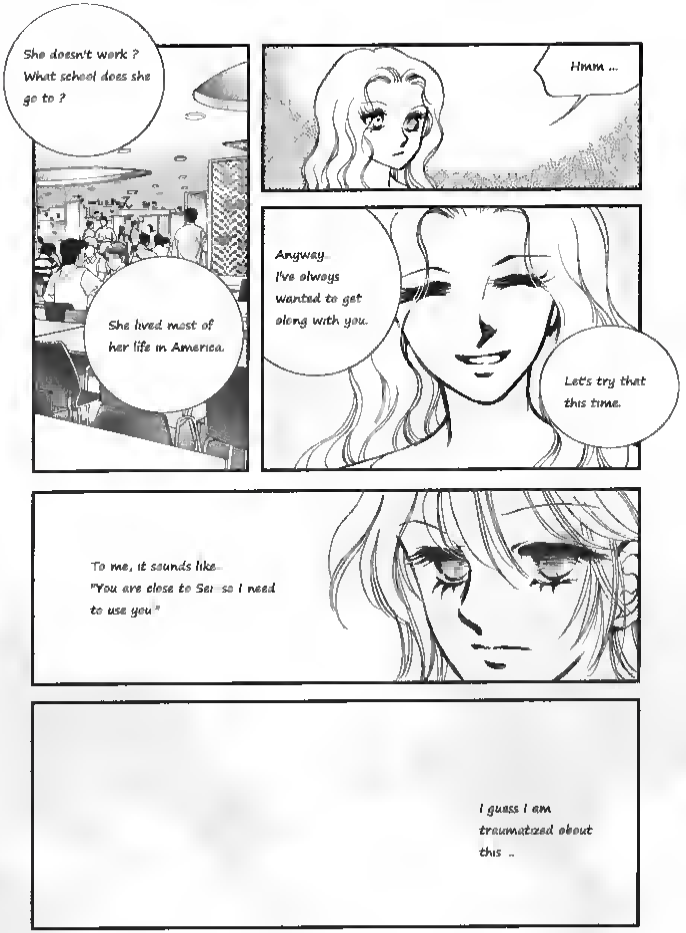
Sera, let's have lunch together
I am with friends right now
Want to tag along ?
No. I am not comfortable with them.
Come on, just the two of us I need to talk to you about something
Uh well...

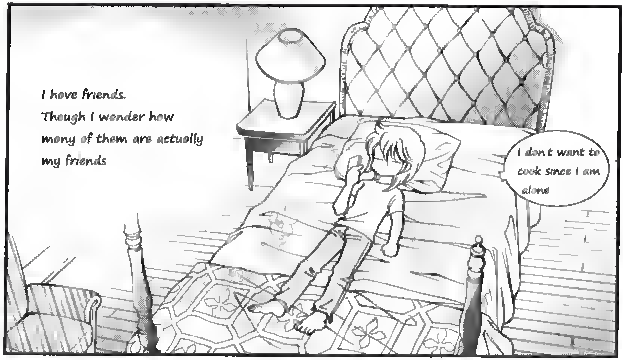

Sure ..
Why can't I refuse well ?
Thanks for last night I think I talked to So quite a bit
I don't even remember well I get too drunk.
Good for you.
Thus is "something" she wanted to talk about ?

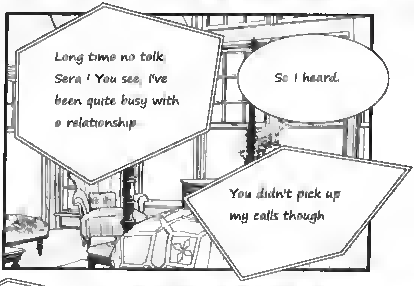

I can introduce you a nice guy
He's tall and handsome.

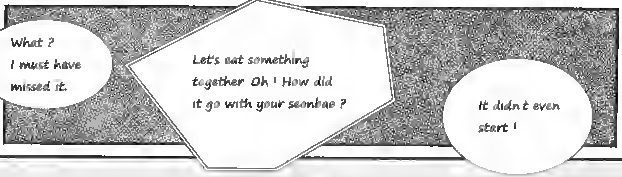
What are you talking about all of the sudden ?!
I am busy !


Come on, get a boyfriend for once
I don't think I've ever heard of you having a relationship !
Forget it. I know what kind of guys you pick. They are never honest ones. And they probably have high standards, too.
Time and fate will tell
I don't want to talk about it.
Still ...
Oh, yeah ! Seol Hui said she'd get me a boyfriend soon.
Seol Hui ? Oh, her ?
Who's she ?
What ?
She... is a girl ?
Can't think of anything else ..


She doesn't work ? What school does she go to ?
She lived most of her life in America.
Hmm ...
Anyway... I've always wanted to get along with you.
Let's try that this time.
To me, it sounds like... "You are close to Sai so I need to use you"
I guess I am traumatized about this ..

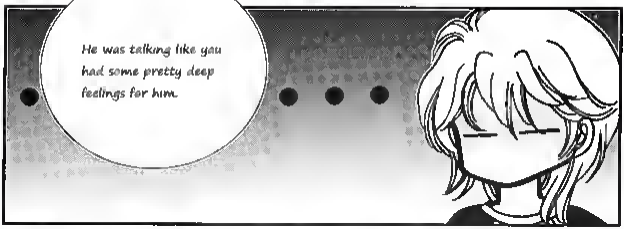


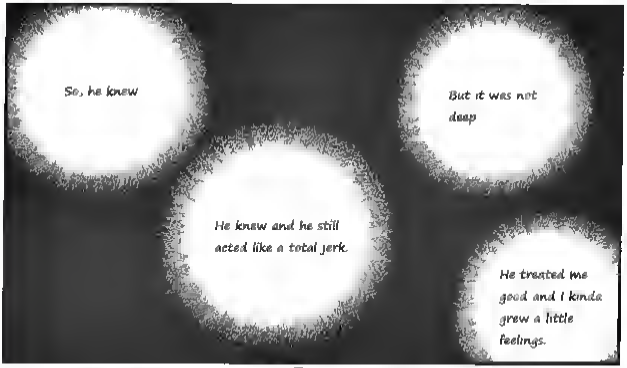


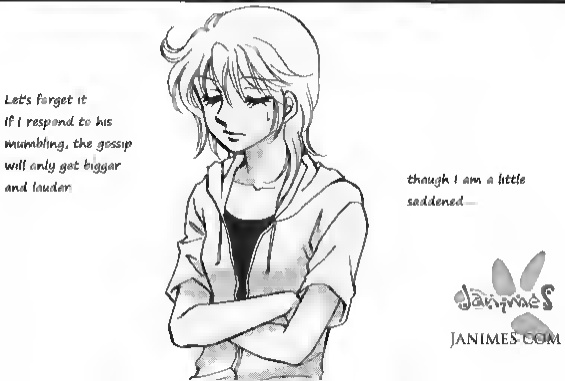


She just had to remind me that I am pitiful ..

Lately I've been avoiding Jyeong Hyeon seonbae.
They say that one's true face surfaces once a romantic relationship is established
He was very, very indecisive and sneaky
I wonder if it was Ah Young's charm
Perhaps that's just who he is.
I am glad that I didn't fall for him too deeply
Sera, Jyeong Hyeon seonbae said that you've been avoiding him because he laid his eyes on Ah Young


He was talking like you had some pretty deep feelings for him.


So, he knew
But it was not deep
He knew and he still acted like a total jerk.
He treated me good and I kinda grew a little feelings.


Let's forget it
If I respond to his mumbling, the gossip will only get bigger and louder
though I am a little saddened—

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Who knew that a relationship can make people so shallow

And what's with the media advertising this whole "true love" crap

I don't think I can trust any guy for a while

조용

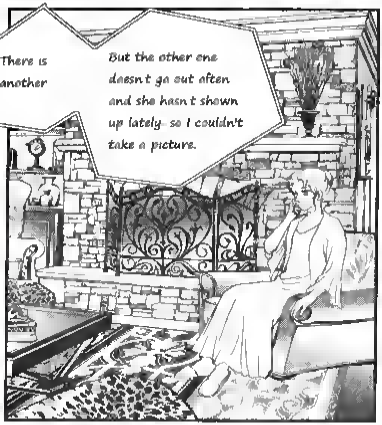
I am shallow too

When is Seol Hui coming back ...

And when is this guest coming ...

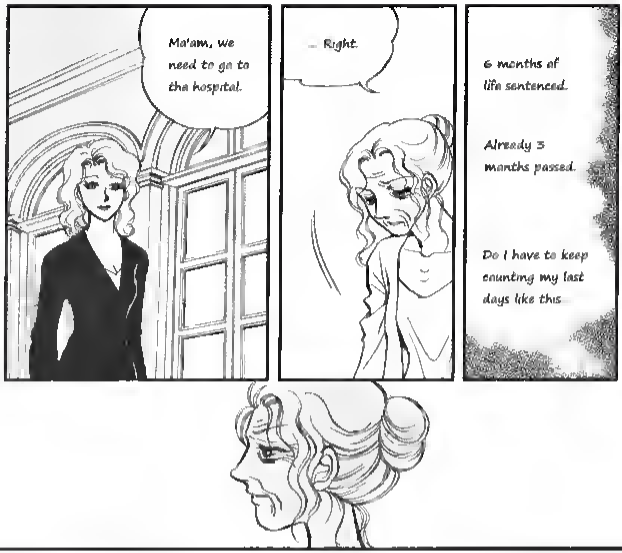
Step mother's funeral ?
Wasn't she adopted ?
— Complicated, eh
I don't think they lived together ever
Two weeks, she said
It's a little scary to live alone in this huge house
I keep lights on when I go to bed.
Sei, help me out here.
Expect me to sneak out at a time like this ?
I know I was just saying
I guess I somehow got used to living with Seol Hui —
Maybe.. it will get better when the guest arrives.

This is not the girl


There is another
But the other one doesn't go out often and she hasn't shown up lately so I couldn't take a picture.

I saw the news ... She must have went to America due to the event.
I can't effectively chase her in USA...

It could be a trap
When you do get a chance take a picture and send it to me ASAP
I understand.

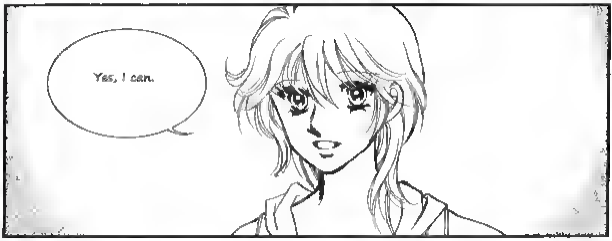

Ma'am, we need to go to the hospital.
... Right.
6 months of life sentenced.
Already 3 months passed.
Do I have to keep counting my last days like this...

I am not in a hurry ...

I am not trying to extend my life ...

I just ...

Can you start in two days ?


Yes, I can.

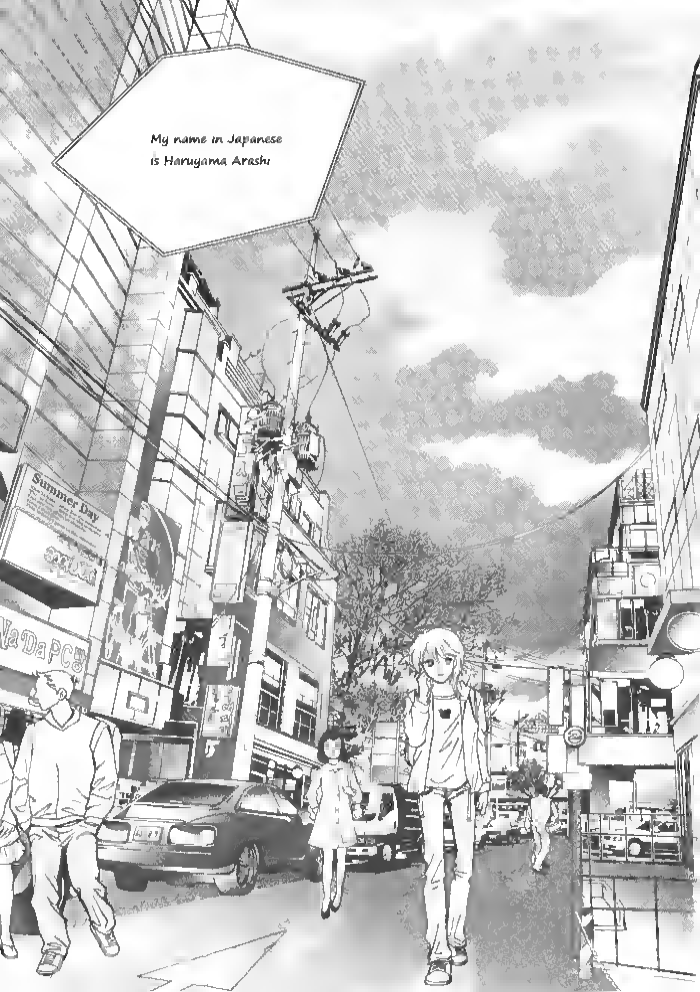
Good, you are hired

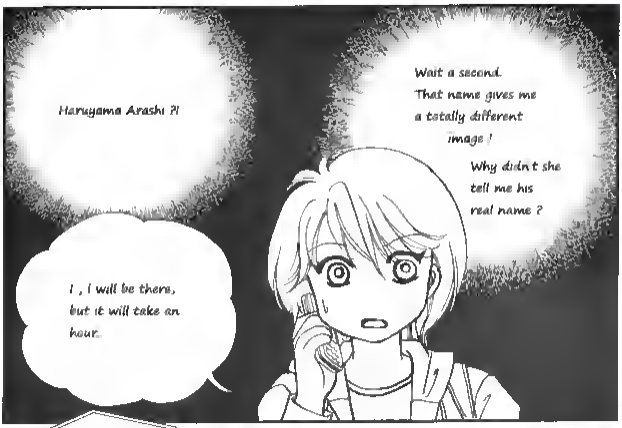
Thank you

Yahoo, got a job ~

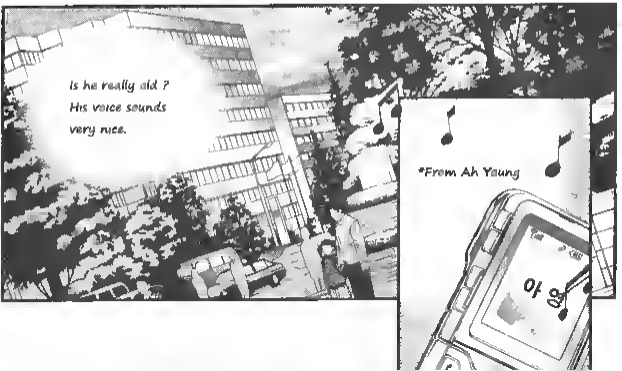
No ones at home so I guess I will eat outside.
090... ?
Is it spam ?
Hello ?
Open the gate !

Hello ?
Who are you ?
I think you got
the wrong
number.
Aren't you Sera chan ?
The gate's locked
Sera what ?
Chan ?
I am Sera, but
who are you
I did tell her
I'd come today
Ah ... !
Ahah !
Chun San ?
Chun San ?
Ah...
right.
That's me


My name in Japanese
is Haruyama Arashi
Summer Day


Haruyama Arashi ?!
Wait a second. That name gives me a totally different image !
Why didn't she tell me his real name ?
I , I will be there, but it will take an hour.

Hurry up !
Yes, yes.
Wow. he sounds so impatient


Is he really old ? His voice sounds very nice.
*From Ah Young

What the ? So many calls at once.
Hello... what's up ?
Sero, what are you doing, where are you ?
Huh ? I am near the university.
Really ? Good.
Let's meet up. I live nearby.
I am here to find a job
And I have to go home right now It's urgent
Is that so ?
Did you get a job ?
Yes, I have to turn it off I am about to take bus.
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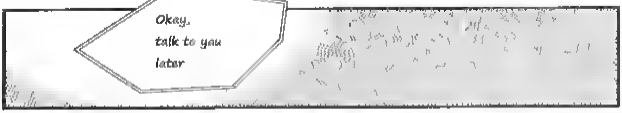
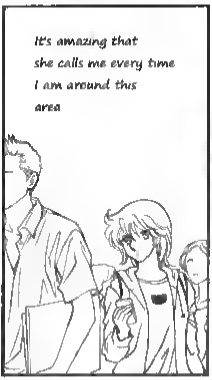
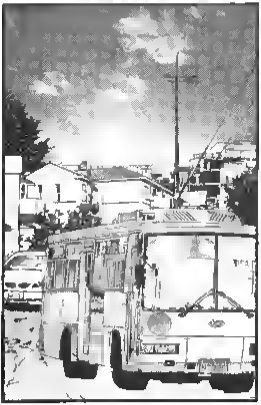

Okay,
talk to you
later


It's amazing that
she calls me every time
I am around this
area

Aw, darn, I've been
writing a plot for
an assignment. It's
a mess in the living
room.
Was there any
food left ?



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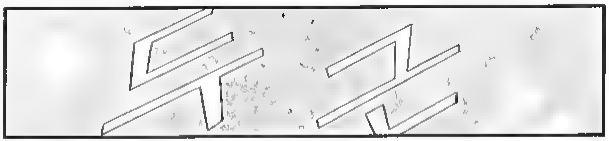
Is that him ?
I am so
sorry

What took
you so long ?

* heart beat



What was that just now ?
Hello Chun San ... no. Mr Haruyama

He looks kinda like Sei ...
Completely different aura though ..
Wait, he looks awfully alike Sei
Is this how Sei would look like when he gets older ?
Sera chan ?

춘산
Haruyama Arashi
31세
Looks like he's in 20s
Eh ? oh, yes.
You look cute
펑
C, come on in.
Where is Seol Hui ?
You don't know ? She went to America for her step mother's funeral
... Great, she didn't tell me anything important, I see.

It was very hard getting a hold of her, so we've been communicating through texts only. I even sent her a text that I'd arrive today!
She's pissing me off. Yuki hime, alright
"Yuki hime"?
Her name has 雪. You know.
Snow is Yuki. Hime is princess. Chun San Ram in Japanese is Haruyama Arashi.
I didn't know what chinese letters her names used. I figured it had something to do with snow though.
What letters do you use?
春 (Spring. Chun)
山 (Mountain, San)
嵐 (Storm, Ram)
Why do you ask?

春 (Haru) 山 (Yama) 嵐 (Arashi)

So, Haruyama Arashi

Storm of spring mountain ?
That's ... quiet a poetic name ...
Sei's name means "Creating a new world" as well and so is mine ...
No one else lives here ?
No.

Then it will be just the two of us for a while ?
What was that again just now ?
He didn't mean anything ... did he ?
I get scared easily at night. If I do get scared, can I sleep with you ?

Of course, not !
And I don't get scared easily !
Yeah ? Do you love horror moveis ?
Yes ! I am a mania ! In addition, I am mayoying in drama !
Is that so ? If you have any recommandations, tell me.
I welcome horror movies and even gore
He was playing with me ...
Where do I sleep ?
Upstairs.

He is weird ...

I mean I've just met him. but I am not having any warnings go off

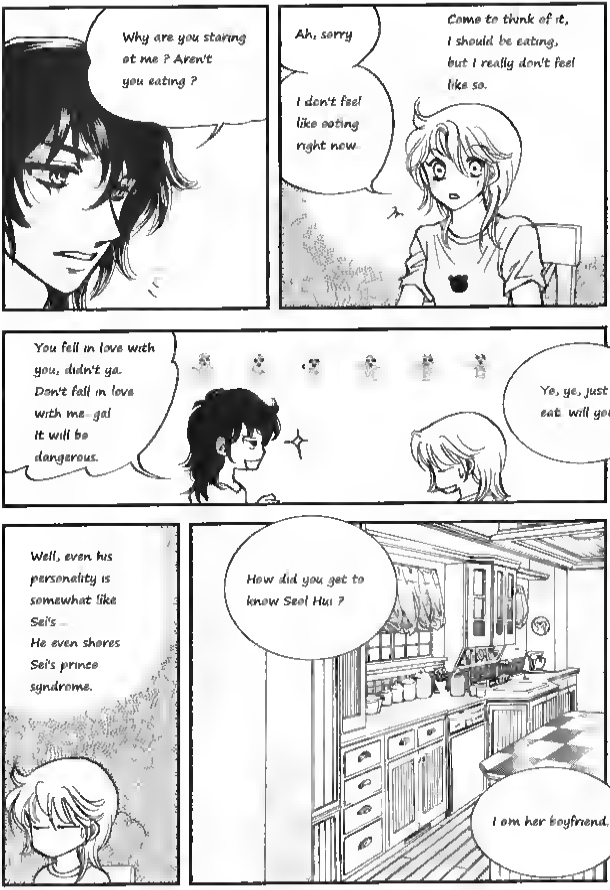
I heard that Japanese are very polite and considerate. He is certainly not ..
Well, I should have known from his dressing style.

I was so hoping to taste Yuki hime chan's cooking ...

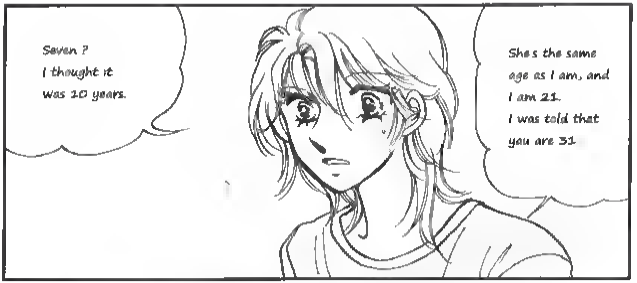
Just eat, will you ? Oh, and she is an amazing cook.

Yours is nice too

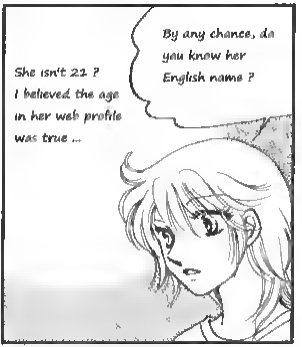
Ye, ye, whatever

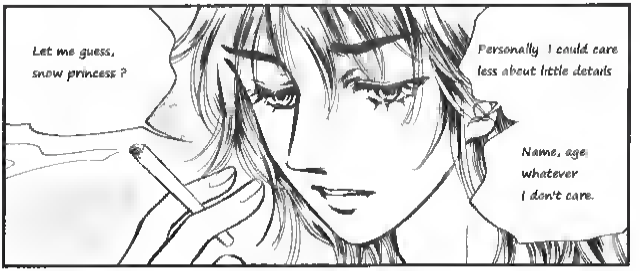

Why are you staring at me ? Aren't you eating ?
Ah, sorry
I don't feel like eating right now.
Come to think of it, I should be eating, but I really don't feel like so.
You fell in love with you, didn't ya. Don't fall in love with me. ga! It will be dangerous.
Ye, ye, just eat will you
Well, even his personality is somewhat like Sei's ... He even shares Sei's prince syndrome.
How did you get to know Seol Hui ?
I am her boyfriend.

Eh ?
Pardon ?
Something just...
Ah really ?
Oh wow she didn't tell me anything !
There is some age difference, I see
Well, it's only 7 years apart.


Seven ?
I thought it was 10 years.
She's the same age as I am, and I am 21.
I was told that you are 31

Oh geez, crappy hell Just which part is truth ? What a liar


By any chance, do you know her English name ?
She isn't 21 ? I believed the age in her web profile was true ...


Let me guess, snow princess ?
Personally I could care less about little details
Name, age whatever I don't care.

You see, we were a couple in our former lives.
전생의 인연?
Is that ... what she used to talk to you ?
Does she do this whenever she wants to hook up with a guy ?
Well, she told me that I resembled someone in her former life.

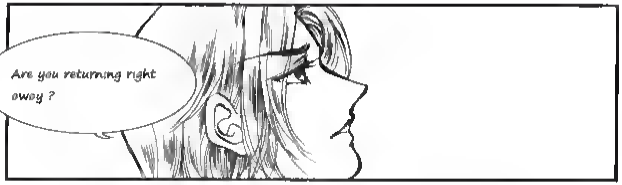
She's right.
He does resemble Sei
Well, there is another guy who looks like her former love in Korea, too
So that's why ...
Has he had the dreams yet ?
Dreams ?
What are you talking about ?
Are they going out ?

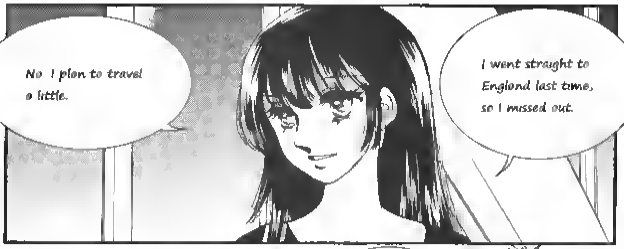
No, not yet...
Good enough.
I thought you were her "boy friend" ?!
I am going to be.
She got me fired up and made me come here
I am not going to just back off easily
Besides...she is exactly the type I've been looking for in my whole life...

I felt as if a part of me died just now.
What's going on with me ...
Just because he looks alike Sai ?
I don't know ..
I don't know what this is ...

So, you are saying that you will accept her wealth but giving all to charity ?
Yes, please make it so.
You did attend her funneral Though you disguised so that no one would recognize you
I can understand that but why didn't you attend the family meeting ?
You are going to have to meet them soon.

Next time perhaps
I see
I will leave now
By the way..
Are you sure that you two aren't in a relationship ? You don't have to lie even to me.
We are not really
Call me when you are returning to Korea
Eh?


Are you returning right away ?


No ! plan to travel a little.
I went straught to England last time, so I missed out.

Want me to ... cancel my plans ?
Haha ... you don't need to.
Don't want to catch attentions, do you ...
You know, you are a little ... too much

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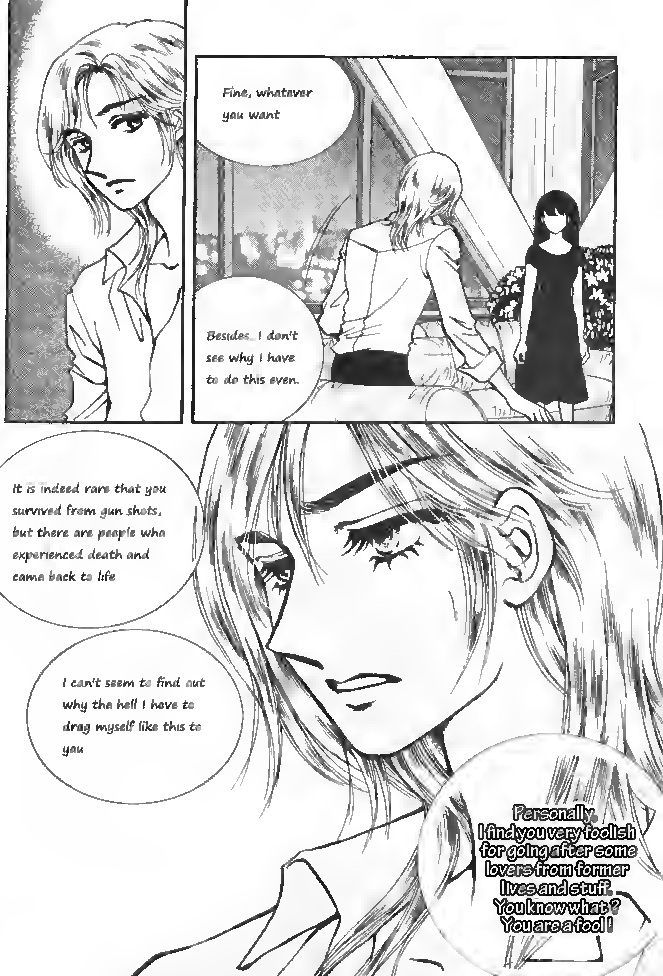
I told you repeatedly
Don't pay attention to me

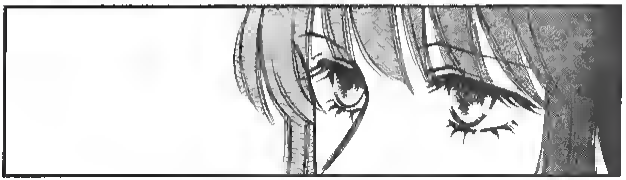

Fine, whatever you want
Besides, I don't see why I have to do this even.
It is indeed rare that you survived from gun shots, but there are people who experienced death and came back to life
I can't seem to find out why the hell I have to drag myself like this to you
Personally, I find you very foolish for going after some lovers from former lives and stuff. You know what? You are a fool!

I am leaving
God damn it !

God damn it !
Just reject me !
Stop giving me lone excuses like former lovers and stuff and just tell me that you don't like me !
That's easier for me to give up !
Just telling me not to pay attention to you leaves me a bad taste !
If that's hard for you, just tell me that I am not your type or something !
Cut me off firm !
If you don't I feel like I am going to contact you again, damn it !

I -

Wait, wait !
I mean... can't we get ourselves some private comfortable time together ?
Geez ! She was really going to cut me off
Well even if you do cut me off now,
I won't probably able to give up like this.



Chrismas.
Chrismas ?

You can spend some time with me during Christmas on the isle I grew up
Fine
Of course.
Keep your words.

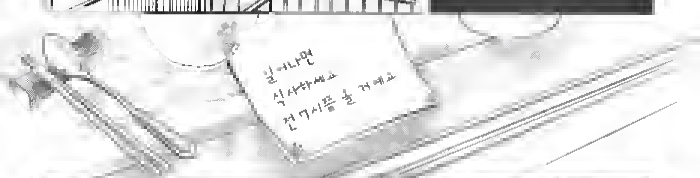
I do keep promises
very well
It's one of few things
I am really good at.

Let me see ...

What happened ?

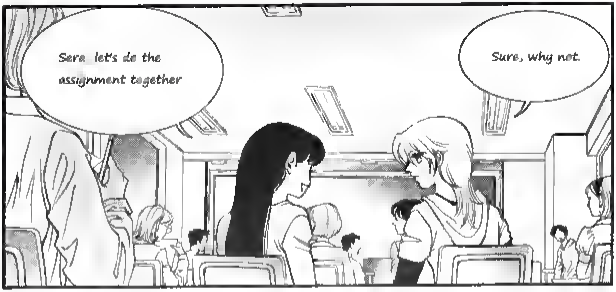
Yesterday, a guy name "Chun Sori" arrived.

His name in Japanese is Haruyama Arashi. He wears a black leather jacket and looks very alike Sal.



He is 31 and has a 10-year age difference with me.

He is a smoker and talk me that Seol Hui is his ideal type of woman.



He seems to be a good talker, and even goes, movies.

Also he is a good talker and is even able to make sexual jokes without making it sound awkward.

Is he a guest ?

I ... I am writing a plot !
What's going on ?!
I feel like I am explaining to myself
What's this ?
Yes ..., I've been thinking about him a lot lately
Thinking before going home.
Maybe, it's because he resembles Sei
Is this ... what they call ... "Love at the first sight" ?
it's embarrassing even thinking of that.
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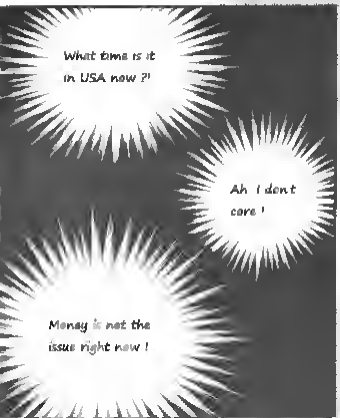
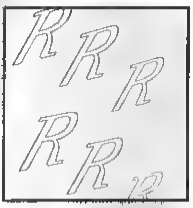
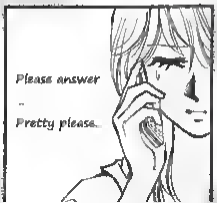
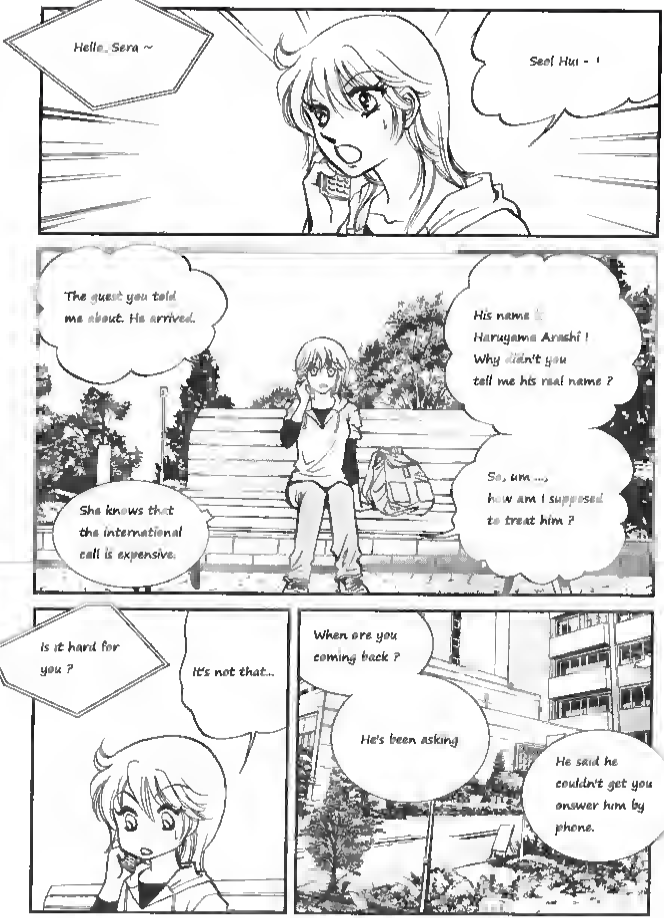
"I want to love ..."

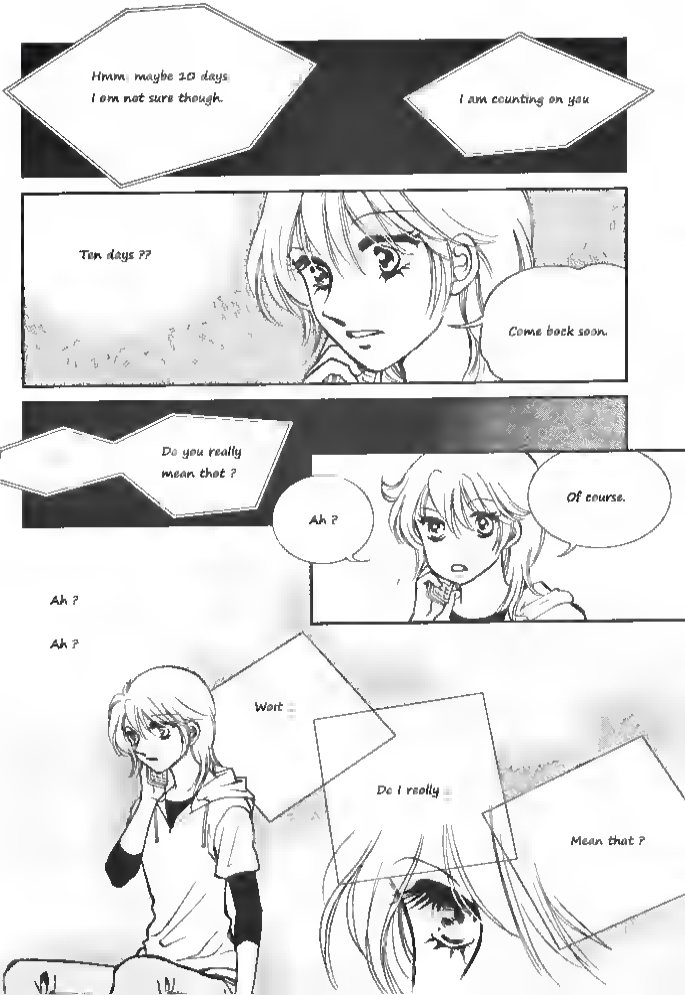
"Fine, you will have it"


What time is it in USA now ?!
Ah I don't care !
Money is not the issue right now !


RRR
RR


Please answer
..
Pretty please..


Hello, Sera ~
Seol Hui - !
The guest you told me about. He arrived.
His name is Haruyama Arashi ! Why didn't you tell me his real name ?
So, um ..., how am I supposed to treat him ?
She knows that the international call is expensive.
Is it hard for you ?
It's not that...
When are you coming back ?
He's been asking
He said he couldn't get you answer him by phone.


Hmm, maybe 20 days
I am not sure though.
I am counting on you
Ten days ??
Come back soon.
Do you really
mean that ?
Ah ?
Of course.
Ah ?
Ah ?
Wait
Do I really
Mean that ?

I did promise you the gift.
What ?
What are you saying ?!
Are you talking about the love stuff ... ?
Did you really take that seriously ?
She has forgotten the fact that it's an international call by now
No way !
How could I just fall in love with a random guy ?
Well I admit that he looks very alike Sei.. so he feels familiar ...
I was thinking about him all day long.

Seol Hui was quiet

And I realized that
I was asking the
questions at myself
rather than her

You knew ... I'd fall in
love ?

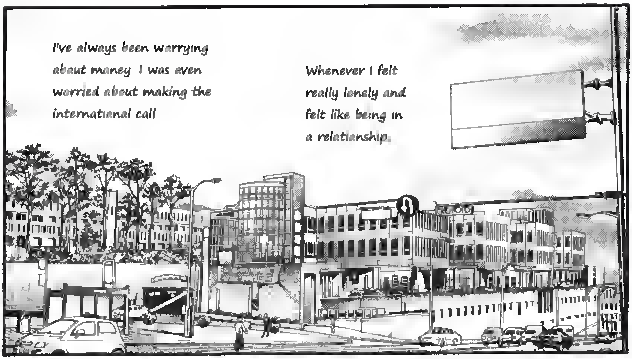
I ... kind of felt like crying

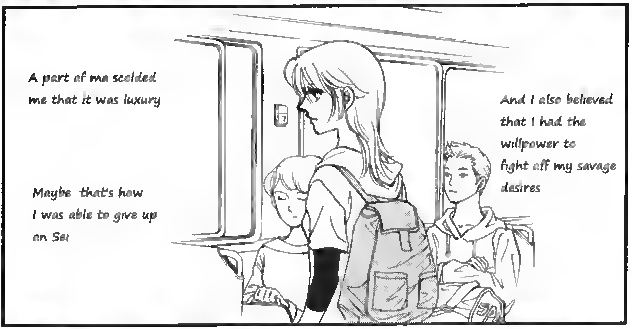
I thought you might ..

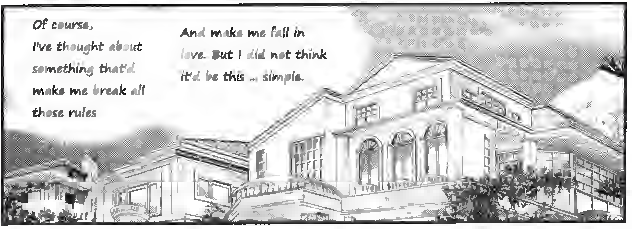
It was evening

I had no choice but to -

I had
in
a day.


I've always been worrying about money. I was even worried about making the international call
Whenever I felt really lonely and felt like being in a relationship.


A part of me scolded me that it was luxury
Maybe that's how I was able to give up on Se
And I also believed that I had the willpower to fight off my savage desires


Of course, I've thought about something that'd make me break all those rules
And make me fall in love. But I did not think it'd be this ... simple.

I am used to this house now
But just knowing that he is in there makes my heart race.
Ye, Sera chan what took you so long ? I am hungry
Sure, just give me a moment. I talked to Seol Hui today
What, really ?
I think she should be back in ten days.
What the hell she didn't pick up my calls !

What should I do though ?
The guy doesn't even see me as a woman.
See ?
She's not answering mine.
And he claims that another woman is his ideal type.
And this "another woman" is not someone I can even dare competing
it's not much but please.
Okay
The worst case scenario !

Sigh, what am I supposed to do until she gets back.

... You have nothing else to do in Korea ?
Your name is fully Japanese but your Korean is pretty good

I grew up in America until 16
My parents divorced then. So mother and I lived in Japan since the divorce
Father was a Korean.
Mother was a Japanese-Korean.

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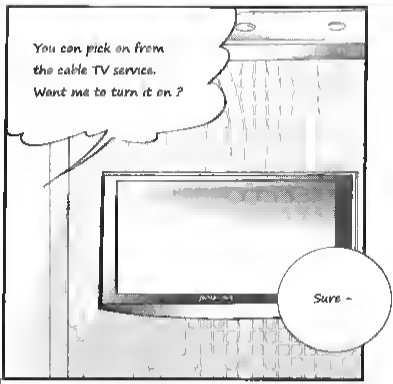
Anything else ?
No ..
Did I ... make him angry ?
I think ... I should say something
What if I piss him off again ?

I ... I have nothing to say !
I can't think of a topic to begin ! And I am afraid if I might make him angry again !
But this silence is killing me !
Just go to my room ???
Ah - this is driving me crazy !

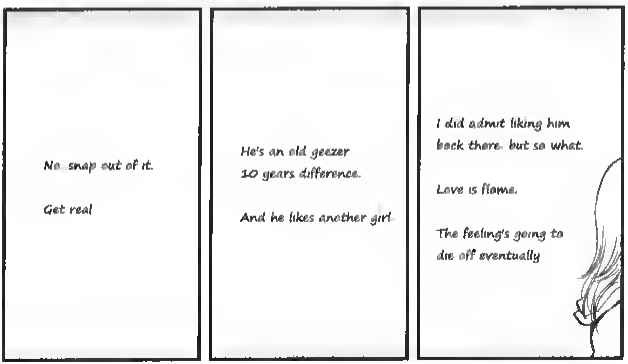
Um, would you like to watch a horror movie ?
You have one ?

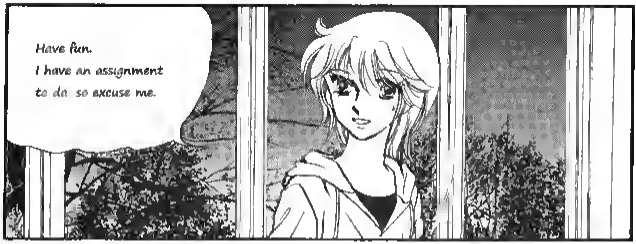

You can pick on from the cable TV service. Want me to turn it on ?
Sure -

Okay.
Phew, I am saved.

I can't believe how hard and pressing this is
Somebody, tell me what to do

I prefer Seol Hui much more !


No, snap out of it.
Get real
He's an old geezer
10 years difference.
And he likes another girl
I did admit liking him back there. but so what.
Love is flame.
The feeling's going to die off eventually



I realized that I was running
away - again -

It's like an automated response

Grand Canyon is actually composed with layers of different colors, so you can tell -
AX

Lady -
When will you be departing ?
I know you agreed to pay for extended use, but we can't be late any more
Ok.
This Grand Canyon sure is old, isn't it ?

I guess so, haha.
I read in a science journal that this canyon's age is getting younger ?
I don't know anything about that. Please get in.
Yes, it doesn't really matter.
All I wanted was to see how short humans' lives are compared to this Canyon. That was all
I miss coffee !
Get back to the hotel ASAP
You are the one who refused to leave.

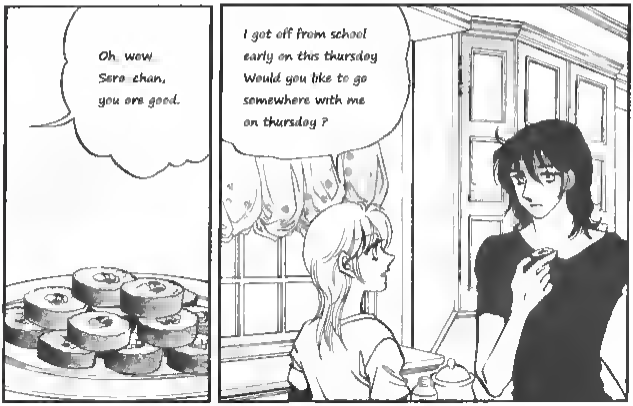
Ever since Chun-Sen arrived, my mind has been under a heavy storm.
Though .. it's been only 3 days

Sero chan, got any plans for the weekend ?
If not, let's go out together
I have a job on weekend, so I can't play.
Is that so ?
There is a live house near the hong university, right ?
Wow, you know well
Live house ?
I've visited Seoul a few times
... Do you do music ?

Not anymore
I am unemployed
right now
Unemployed ?!
I thought you were
taking a
vacation ?!
Money is
#1 factor
for her
He's in 30s and
unemployed ?
Is he going after Seol Hui
because of her money ?
suspicious
If he is really
unemployed,
that's too bad.

Even though
I thought that ~
Before going out
I am going to make
dinner Any dishes
you want me to make ?
Rolled rice ~

I started to feel pity for him
soon after ~
Did he sort of fail at music
business ?
Being a musician
is a pretty bad
job unless you
become really
successful ~


Oh wow
Sera-chan,
you are good.
I got off from school
early on this thursday
Would you like to go
somewhere with me
on thursday ?

My mind at the moment was

Divided like a rainbow

Various colors

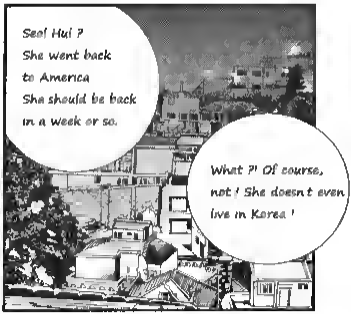
of thoughts

And shapes ..

I wasn't even sure
I was whether excited
or afraid.

I wanted to talk
someone about this.

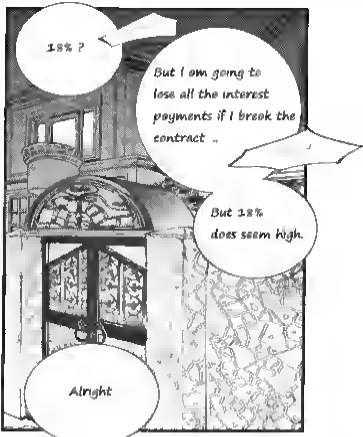
But I realized that
even letting others
know would cause
unwanted troubles.



Although nothing I told her was confirmed truth.. I felt like it was truth.

I mean she has no desire for success Would she be interested in making money ?

The deposit ? I put it back in the bank. It's under a contract



After father failed his business and became unemployed, mother started her career at an insurance company.

It's been 8 months. I hear that she is doing pretty bad.

But it seems she enjoys having a job at least.

Well, I have nothing to insure anyway.

I guess this is the least I could do. Besides, 12% is quite high...

Even so, it's only two grands.

I am glad that I didn't have to talk to Seol Hui about this.

But issues like this ...

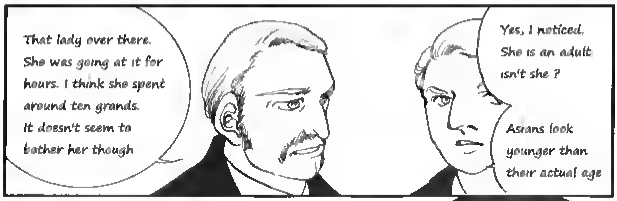
Put me back to reality.

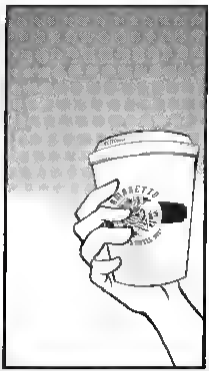
Really ... he throws me back to the harsh reality ...

And leaves me feel hollow ...

PLAY 5 COINS
찰칵

Yay, earned 1200 dollars.
My arm hurts.


That lady over there. She was going at it for hours. I think she spent around ten grands. It doesn't seem to bother her though
Yes, I noticed. She is an adult isn't she ?
Asians look younger than their actual age



NEW YORK
NEW YORK

Sera..here I am.
Ah ?
Ah Young ..
I am sorry
I can't talk.
It's a busy hour
Hello.
아 얘
누구 ?

I met him in a meeting today I figured we'd have dinner here.

The name's Im Seong-Je His major is economics.

She suggest to eat here since her friend works here. You two must be close.

I think she is sort of testing me here though. Nice to meet you, Miss Sera.

Hoha ..

Thank you for your order

Ah Young wants me to grade him ?

No way would she let me do that

Why did she have to come here anyway ?

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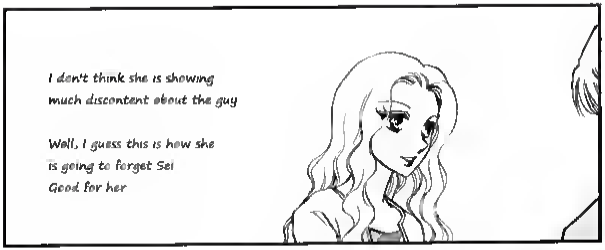


The guy has a car

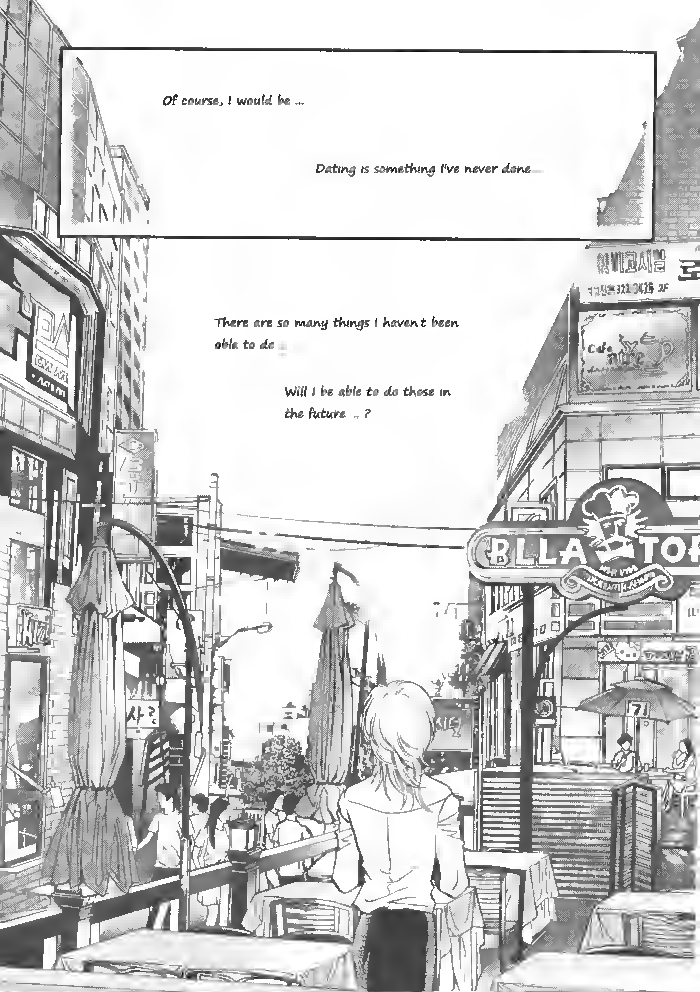
He paid for the meal

I think Ah Young is having a good time

Am I jealous ... ?

Nope.

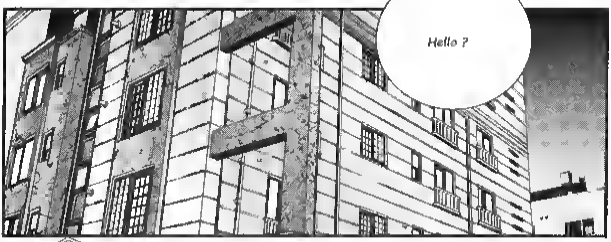
Maybe.


Of course, I would be ...
Dating is something I've never done...
There are so many things I haven't been able to do ...
Will I be able to do these in the future .. ?

Marcus ?
What's up ?
Working ?
I guess it's a night scene ?
Me ? I am at the Niagara Falls
I arrived at evening, so I am merely watching it from my hotel room.

I was bored so
I called you
Well ?
I might go somewhere
else by tomorrow
I don't know
I will call you later
Good night.
EMBASSY
SUITES

Sigh ..
How boring ...


Hello ?

Hi, Sei
Long time no talk
Hey - !

I wondered who was calling from a weird number.
You called me earlier
Haha,
I am calling from a hotel

I was told that you were on a trip_ rich lady
Yes, I am in Canada
I wanted to talk to you
So, did you have a dream about me ?

Nope,
why would I ?
What's this
silence ?
So...
What kind of dream
was it ?

I said I did not !
Stop trying to confuse me with your stories !
No need to get confused if you didn't dream it
I am telling you ! I did not have a dream about you ! I swear !
Wait ...
Why am I overreacting ..
This is like ... confirming her ...
You agreed to date me, remember ?
See you soon, Sei ~

I will call you once I get back.
Hey, no ! I take it back ! I am not going to date you !
She hung up
Geez, I feel like she caught me
It's not like I wanted to have those dreams.
I tend to have the dream whenever she is involved ..
I must erase her from my brain.
Repeatedly telling himself

" What kind of dream was it? "

That dream again ....

Sigh, I figured as much

What was this scene about ?

Yes .... someone visited this house.

And the visitor was wearing a straw raincoat

There is a guest for you

Why have you hid this from me ?

Your .... is here

What did she say ?

I couldn't hear well

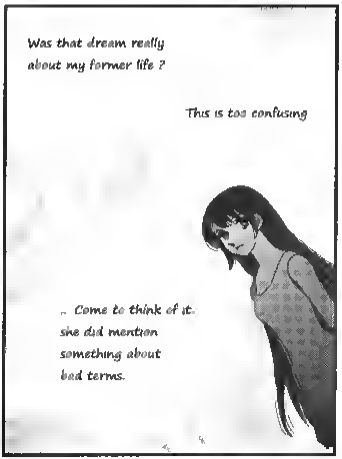
Who is this old man ... ?
Could he be
me ?!

I've finally found you, father.

What ?!

What the hell ?
What, daughter ?!
I thought we were lovers in the former life ?

From everything she said, I thought we were a couple.
What is this ?


Was that dream really about my former life ?
This is too confusing
.. Come to think of it, she did mention something about bad terms.

Those eyes of hers ..
She looked as if she hated the old man.
Damn ! can't sleep like this !
I am sorry I didn't get to sleep well last night.
Sei, what the hell is wrong with you ?! You keep doing it wrong !
Snap out of it ! Take a break for half an hour !
I am sorry

Hey, do it right.
We can't afford making mistakes on the stage !
Sorry
Let's get some drinks.

Thursday. I came back home as fast as I could
He wasn't home however
So it was just me who was waiting for today
Well yes... the promise was made jokingly

I knew this might happen.
Still it hurts.

He isn't answering his cell

This hurts.

And I hate this sensation inside of me

It's not like we are in a relationship even.

11 ...

He's late.

Should I call him ?

I found myself quite funny for worrying about a guy who's 10 years older than me.

Should I ...
세아
From Se: ?
Hello
How are you doing ?
Didn't sleep ?
I've been pretty busy
here as well
I guess you are having
it harder
Tomorrow ?
Sure, why not.
At the cafe by
Hong university.
right ?
그래 나도
보고 싶다야
I've concluded my feelings
about him many years ago.
and with merge of Chun San,
I really feel like he is just a
friend now
I bet he will be
shocked to hear
there is someone
who looks just
like him.

I have shocking news for you.
I will tell you tomorrow ~

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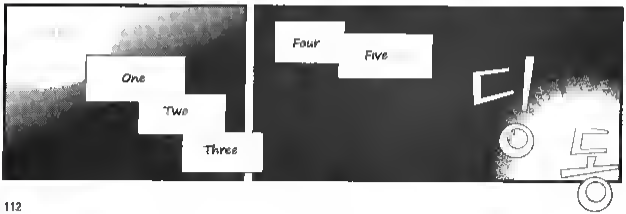
3 AM ..


One
Two
Three
Four
Five

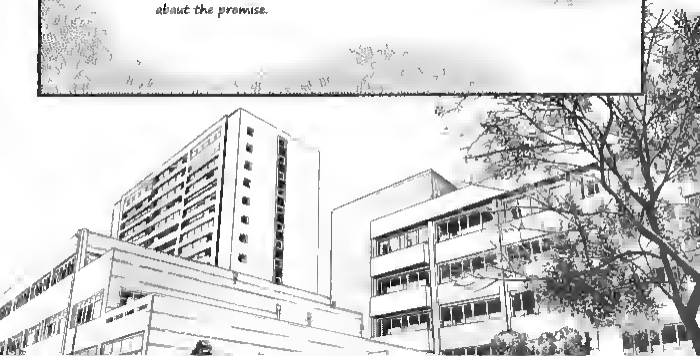
Hello, Sera chan.
I guess I woke you up ?
Sorry, sorry
I'd prefer you giving me a spare key
I am sorry, but this isn't my house I can't do that
Anyway, I will try to open the gate for you.
He reeks alcohol
Oh, you are angry

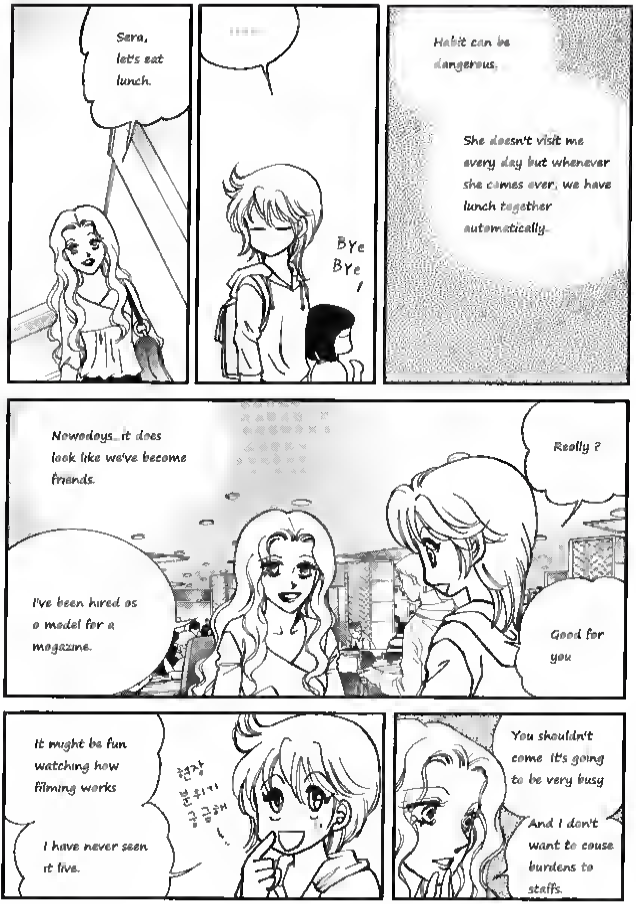
.. You should have at least called me.
I know you've been to Seoul before but it's still not your home country
I know you are an adult but 3 AM is just too late.
You are so cute
I came back earlier because of you.
Hie - !
Nevermind ! Did you take a cab ?
Nope ~ a kind woman gave me a ride
A woman ?
Good night. I won't need breakfast.

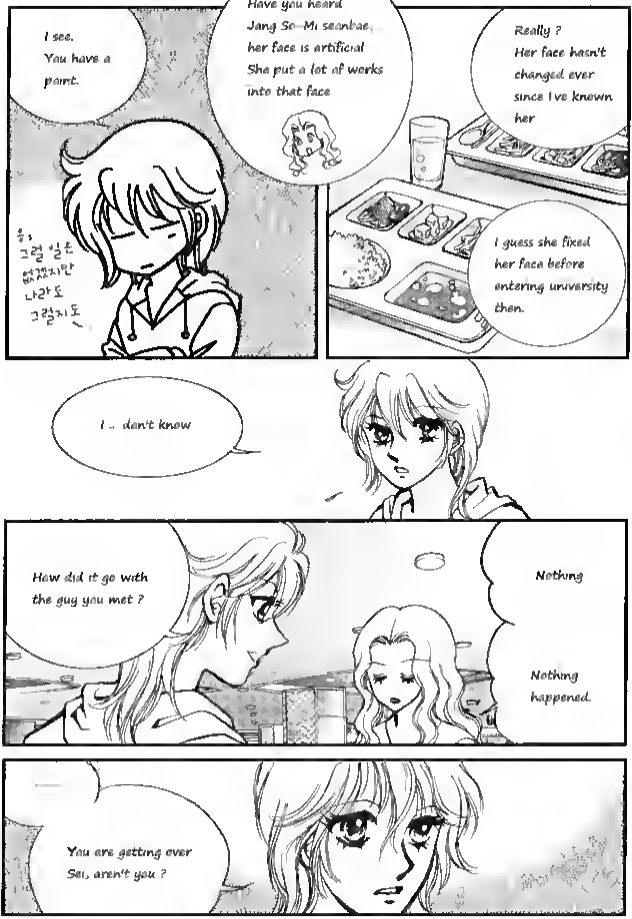
A kind woman ?
Wait.. um ..
so this is like ..
He doesn't know
her ?

This man ... lives in a
totally diffeent world.
And it's not the
same world as
Seol Hui's ..

In the end, I couldn't even talk him
about the promise.




Sera, let's eat lunch.
Bye Bye!
Habit can be dangerous.
She doesn't visit me every day but whenever she comes over, we have lunch together automatically.
Nowadays...it does look like we've become friends.
Really ?
I've been hired as a model for a magazine.
Good for you
It might be fun watching how filming works
I have never seen it live.
You shouldn't come. It's going to be very busy
And I don't want to cause burdens to staffs.


I see.
You have a point.
Have you heard Jang So-Mi seanbae, her face is artificial She put a lot af works into that face
Really ?
Her face hasn't changed ever since I've known her
I guess she fixed her face before entering university then.
I .. don't know
How did it go with the guy you met ?
Nothing
Nothing happened.
You are getting over Sei, aren't you ?

Do I look like so ?
No matter how many guys I meet nothing seems to be happening
It seems you haven't seen Sei for a while.
Huh ?
Ah, well
I am supposed to see him tonight. I haven't met him since the drunken night.
Why don't you call him some other day
It's going to be quite private.
Can I tag along ?
And you didn't tell me ?

Seeing him at Heng university I guess ?
Yes.
I see I must say I am very disappointed at you
I thought you'd help me. Oh well
What the hell Why I am meeting Sei has absolutely nothing to do with you
Do you think anything that has something to do with Sei has something to do with you ?

I think girls who are in love become very selfish.

They tend to think that the world evolves around them.

Or, maybe it's just her

Though ... I may turn out to be like her soon ... ?
So loud ...
Is it heavy metal ?
Eeek
he can sleep like this ?
It sounds familiar ...
Hello ?

In a strange music where "Du Hast Mich" is being repeated
DU HAST MICH♪
Why is he sleeping in the living room?
I felt like just staring at him would be good enough.
DU HAST MICH♪
For the moment, I actually preferred... the way the things were. I don't know him. He doesn't know me. I felt that that was enough.

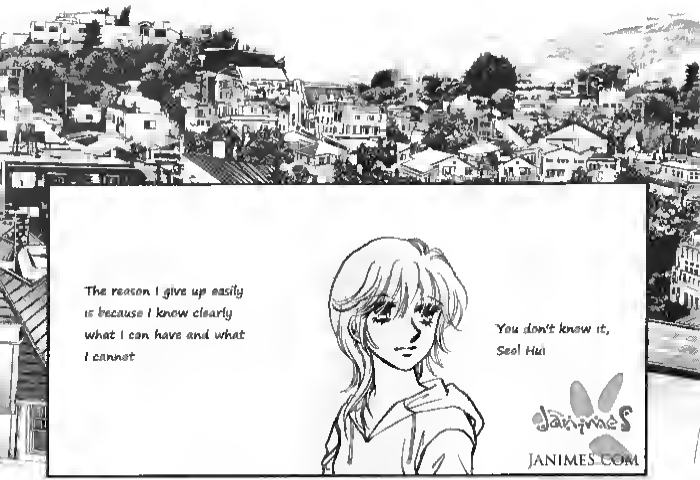
*BGM: Rammstein "DU HAST"

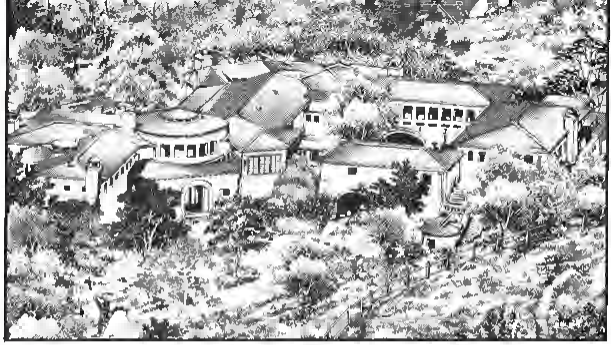
I don't know what she was thinking when she said that.

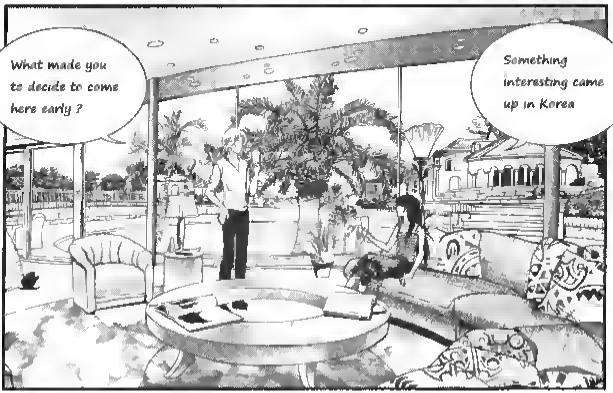
I vividly [illegible] to me

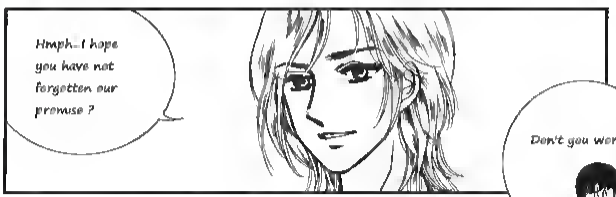
[illegible] I don't think I can change the way I am now.

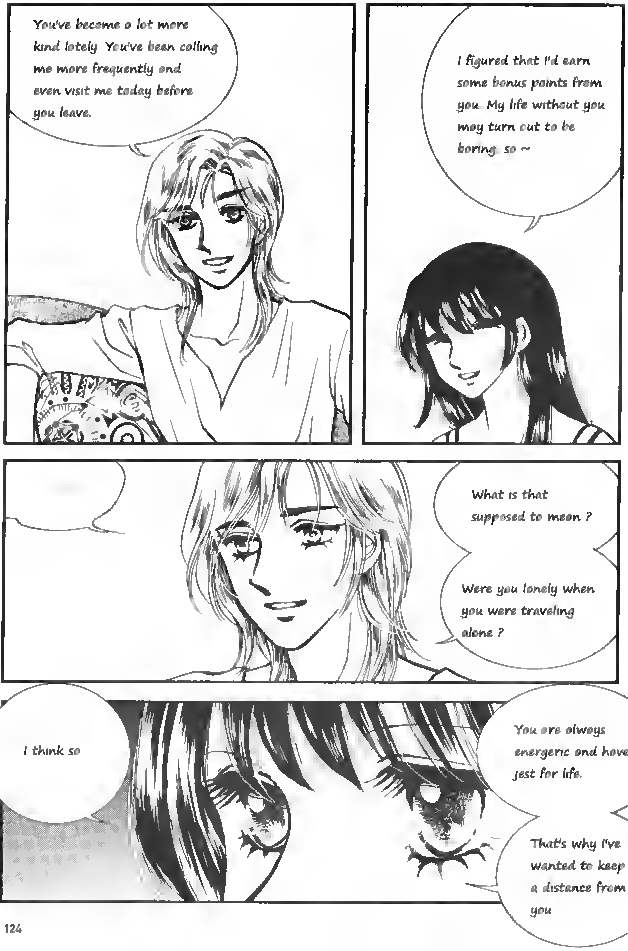
I just like to... [illegible] That's all...

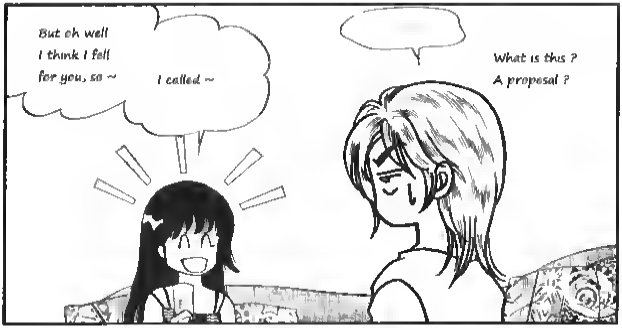




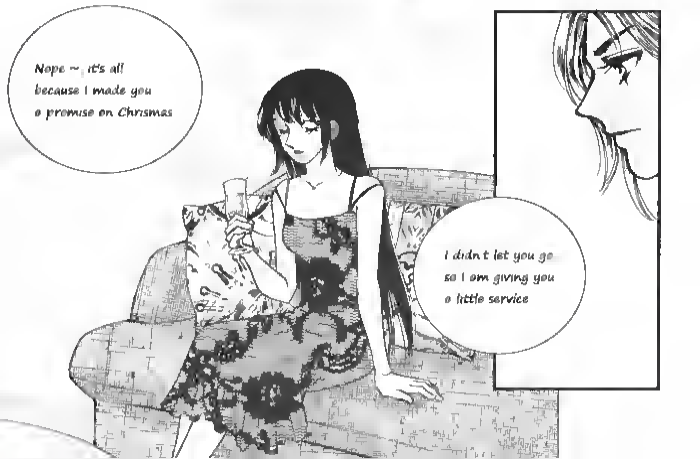

What made you to decide to come here early ?
Something interesting came up in Korea


Hmph~I hope you have not forgotten our promise ?
Don't you worry


You've become a lot more kind lately. You've been calling me more frequently and even visit me today before you leave.
I figured that I'd earn some bonus points from you. My life without you may turn out to be boring, so ~
What is that supposed to mean ?
Were you lonely when you were traveling alone ?
I think so
You are always energetic and have zest for life.
That's why I've wanted to keep a distance from you

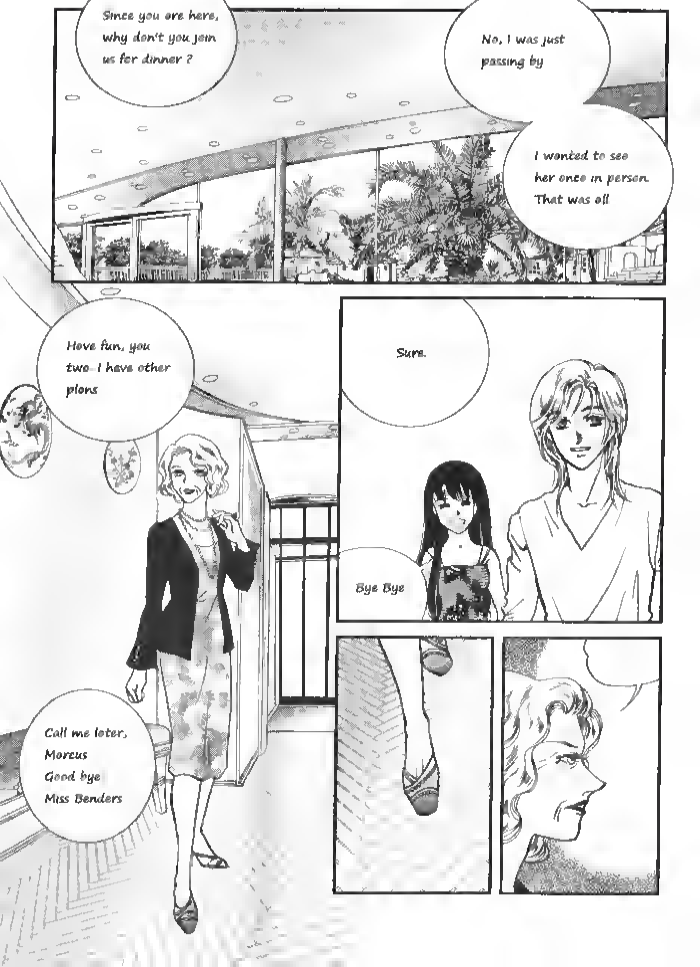

But oh well
I think I fell
for you, so ~
I called ~
What is this ?
A proposal ?

Can I take this as your
proposal ?

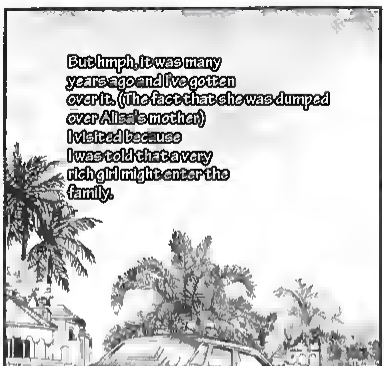

Nope ~ , it's all
because I made you
a promise on Chrismas
I didn't let you go
so I am giving you
a little service

A mysterious girl ...
Perhaps, that's why I am being attracted by her
Marcus
Mrs Hunt is here
Marcus.
Mother ?
I take that you are Alisa ?
Nice to meet you

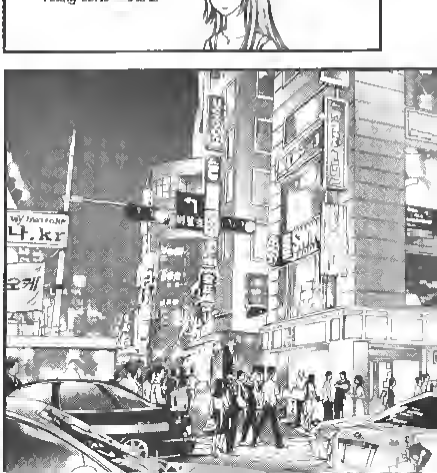
Nice to meet you.
I am Alisa Benders.
Actually, Marcus had a plan to have dinner with me, but he told me that Alisa was here
So I withdrew gladly
I am sorry about Kate
She was so young
Please consider us a part of your family Feel free to visit any time
Thank you Marcus has been treating me good enough already

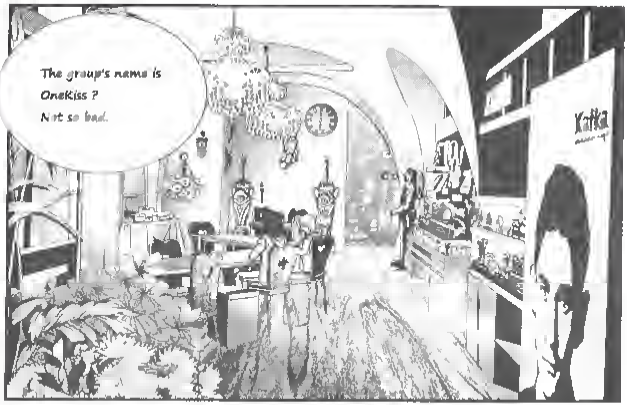

Since you are here, why don't you join us for dinner ?
No, I was just passing by
I wanted to see her once in person. That was all
Have fun, you two. I have other plans
Sure.
Bye Bye
Call me later, Marcus
Good bye Miss Benders

She looks like an exact copy of her mother .. She looks too alike


But hmph, it was many years ago and I've gotten over it. (the fact that she was dumped over Alice's mother)
I visited because I was told that a very rich girl might enter the family.

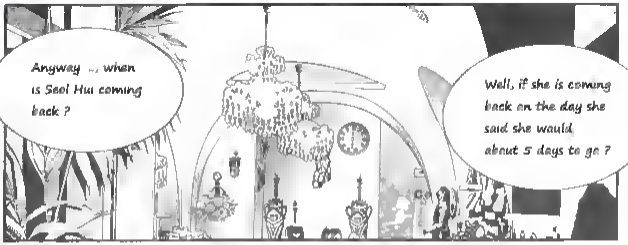
And she had a really eerie aura.

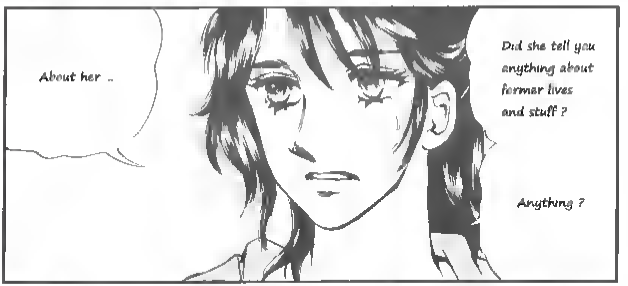



The group's name is OneKiss ?
Not so bad.
Kafka

And there are even singles for you
Yeah. and that is causing some internal conflict with another member
Geez ..

Hey ! I wanna listen to your song.
Maybe next time ~

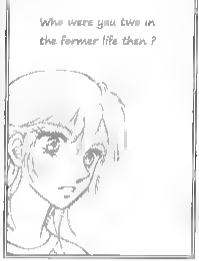

Anyway ... when is Seol Hui coming back ?
Well, if she is coming back on the day she said she would about 5 days to go ?


About her ..
Did she tell you anything about former lives and stuff ?
Anything ?

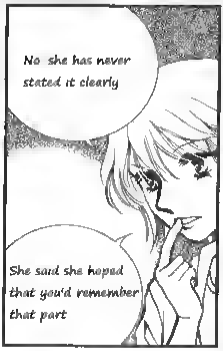
Ah that former lovers stuff ?

"Lovers" ? Did she tell you that ?

Huh ?
What ... ?
Ah ?


Who were you two in the former life then ?

Well ... I am hoping he'd recall


No she has never stated it clearly
She said she hoped that you'd remember that part

Me ?!

Did you ... really have dreams about that ?

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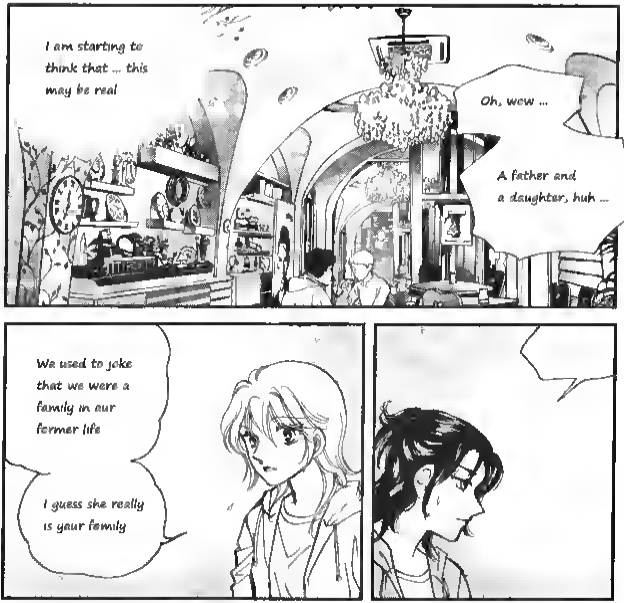
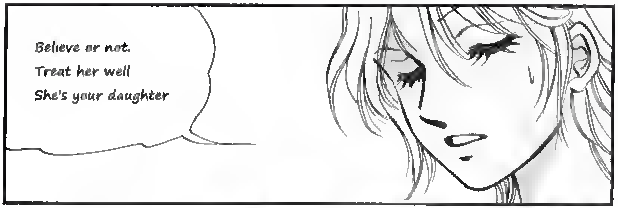
Have you ?
You .. have ?!

Really ?
Really, really
really ?!
How was it ?!
Well...
In dreams I think I am an old
dying man. A young woman visits
me and tell me that I am her
father
If that's correct
we were a father
and a daughter ?
What ?
A father
and a
daughter ?
Not lovers ?

Now.. now, I am confused as well
Let's not think too much. They are just dreams
I ... try not to think too much about this ...
Something must have made you think that those dreams are what Seol Hui claims to be.
What's making you believe that these are indeed related to your former life ?
It's always the same dreams and continues on.
It's like watching a series

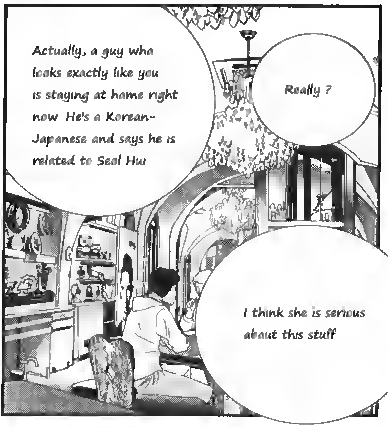

I am starting to think that ... this may be real
Oh, wow ...
A father and a daughter, huh ...
We used to joke that we were a family in our former life
I guess she really is your family

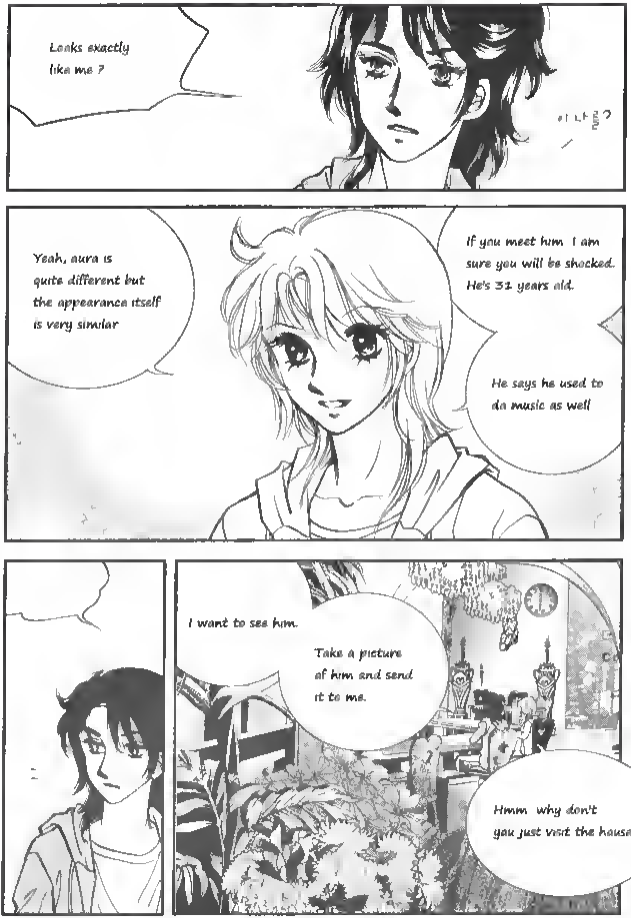
Still ... , should we believe this or not ...

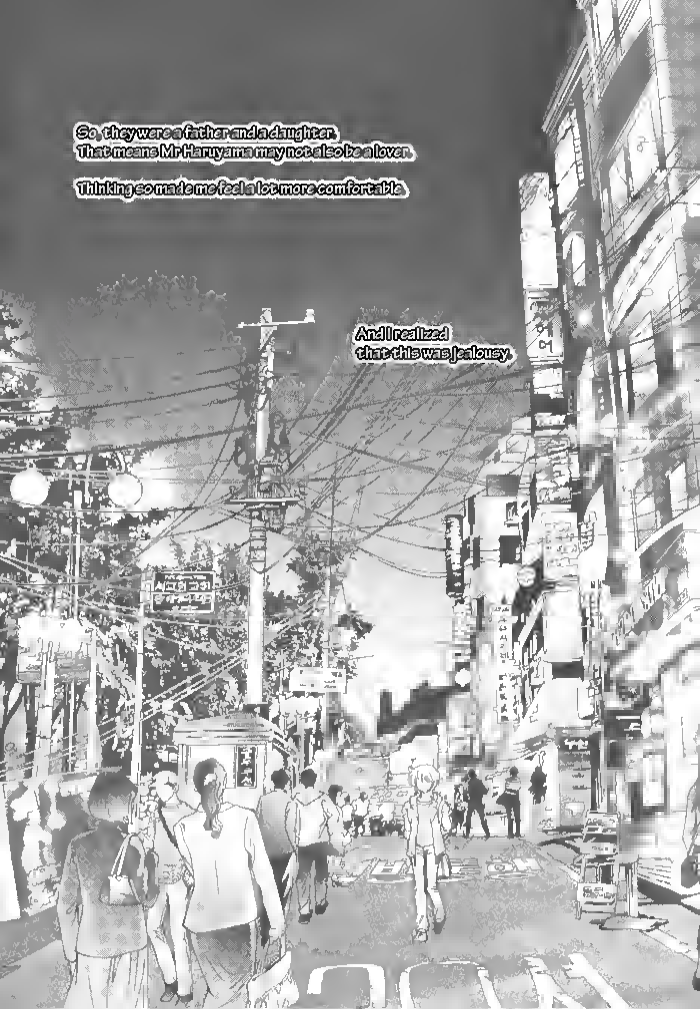

Believe or not.
Treat her well
She's your daughter

Yeah, right.
How am I supposed to treat her well ?
Adopt her ?
She is the same age as me.

I am thinking she lied about her age. She may be younger than you
She has so many secrets, I think.


Actually, a guy who looks exactly like you is staying at home right now. He's a Korean-Japanese and says he is related to Seol Hui
Really ?
I think she is serious about this stuff


Looks exactly like me ?
Yeah, aura is quite different but the appearance itself is very similar
If you meet him I am sure you will be shocked. He's 31 years old.
He says he used to da music as well
I want to see him.
Take a picture of him and send it to me.
Hmm why don't you just visit the hausa ?


So, they were a father and a daughter.
That means Mr Haruyama may not also be a lover.
Thinking so made me feel a lot more comfortable.
And I realized
that this was jealousy.

I think he came home after mid night yesterday also
Why does he insist sleeping in the living room ?
Gave him a spare key
Would you like breakfast ?
— I see
Well, I did ask him whether he heard me or not.
My job's done ~
I don't know him enough to woke him up
One-man show

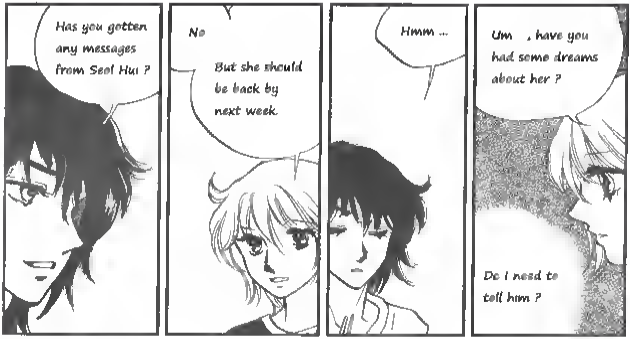
Actually, I am trying to keep a distance from him
Yes. , I will eat
Taken some heavy damage from the broken promise.

Eh ? You are awake ?

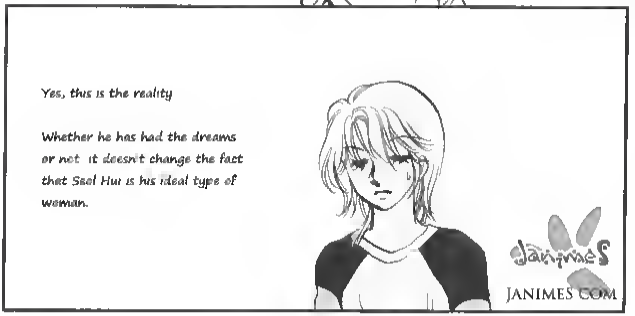
Yes

S sure, I will get it ready

And now I am nervous again.


Has you gotten any messages from Seol Hui ?
No
But she should be back by next week.
Hmm ...
Um , have you had some dreams about her ?
Do I need to tell him ?

Well ?
I am not quite sure.
And to be honest, I don't care


Yes, this is the reality
Whether he has had the dreams or not it doesn't change the fact that Seol Hui is his ideal type of woman.

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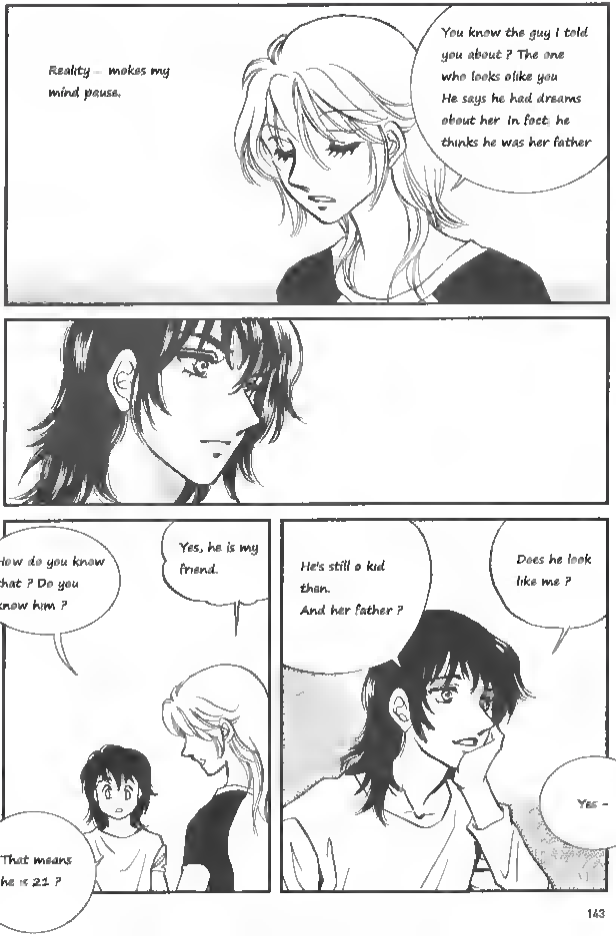
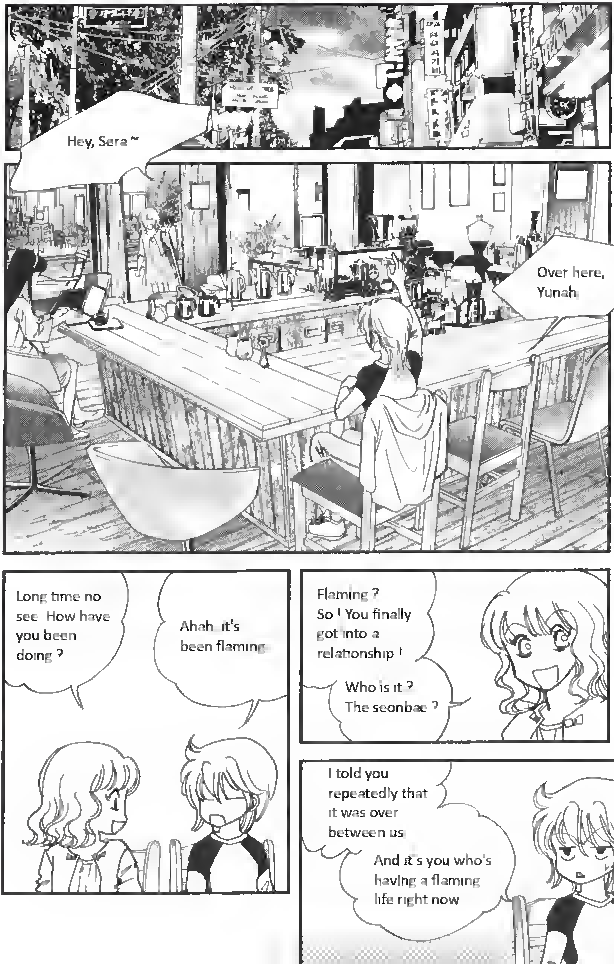
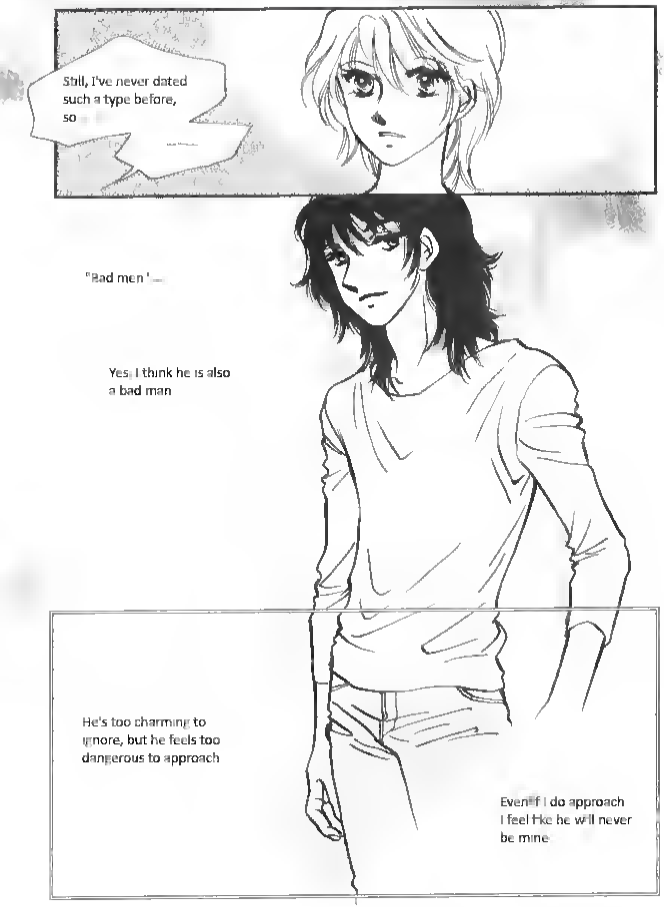

Reality – makes my mind pause.
You know the guy I told you about ? The one who looks alike you He says he had dreams about her in fact he thinks he was her father
How do you know that ? Do you know him ?
Yes, he is my friend.
That means he is 21 ?
He's still a kid than.
And her father ?
Does he look like me ?
Yes -

Well, I am sure I am more handsome
Sure, think however you like
도둑이 제발저려
This is interesting. Bring him
Yes yes, he said he'd see you soon
You are quite funny I didn't know you had such a smooth side
I am not a comedian
I didn't mean so and don't become one

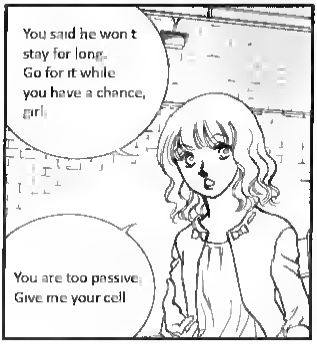

Hey, Sera ~
Over here, Yunah
Long time no see. How have you been doing ?
Ahah, it's been flaming
Flaming ? So ! You finally got into a relationship !
Who is it ? The seonbae ?
I told you repeatedly that it was over between us
And it's you who's having a flaming life right now

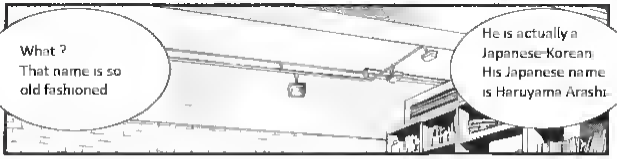
You put too much love-love cues on your web
You put questions like these on your webs te What is love ? Where does love go ? How does love feel like ?
You have to hear me out He was regularly communicating with his ex when our relationship was still fresh
An ex can never remain as a friend
He broke up with her That means he has to cut her off in his life for me !
He keeps coming up with excuses that he can't avoid her since they are in the same class
Well her case is quite the opposite
How is he ?
I think he s one of those bad men
(sarcasm)
He's good looking and has manners
But he has edges which make him more charming


Still, I've never dated such a type before, so
"Bad men"
Yes. I think he is also a bad man
He's too charming to ignore, but he feels too dangerous to approach
Even if I do approach I feel like he will never be mine

Well I will see
He did apologize
to me
So, who is he ?
Confess now
Well...
I think he is one
of those bad men
also
You too ?
Are you sure, or are
you just playing along ?
It's one-sided
And we aren't even in
a relationship
No different from
Sei's case then
Why not ?
Is he taken ?

No.. , but he is an adult, 10 years older than me.
Whatttttt ?!
He's already a geezer then
Why not just take him on ?
You are much younger. Older people can hardly refuse youth
Sem I am shocked! thht your taste is in for older men.
He should be glad that you are interested in him.
You look not bad. You look plain only because you don t put on makeup.
Some simple facts can be dramatically changed if you add a few "if"s
Hahaha, is that so
He is staying where you live ?
What s taking you so long then ?
Your chance is right there !
Maybe, you played too young. Give me the number. I will call him out
Let's play
Come on
This will be my repayment for the dinner
It's okay





She is probably right that I will likely miss my chance on my own

I fear that he might feel bothered though...

I am Sera's friend
I hear you are a Japanese-Korean ? I will give you our location Treat us pleasssssse
I must admit, she has soeial skills.
I could never do that
He's coming ~
Woah, really ?
You are amazing
Hohoho, they don't call me the socialist Yunah for no reason
Maybe, I should learn ...
Can I learn ?
You have to be born with it

Hmm?
It's really, really amazing that Ah Young calls me only when I am nearby.
꾀꼬파
<-- "I am seeing Yunah. We haven't met for a long time. Talk to you later."
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디오동
Okay, see you at school
What's wrong ?
Eh ? Did I look weird ?
Who was that ?
Ah Young ...
Shin Ah Young ? You talk to her ?
After she transferred to my school, I have lunch with her often.

Yes, that's right
He's here
Is this the place ?

No we are going to somewhere else.
Yunah, say hello. This is Haruyama Arashi.
Ah! Ah... h, hello
Thank you
부우우
This place has a bad transportation route. Is the car at home Seol Hui's ?
Yes.

No sir
Do you even know how much it is ?
Do you know a key to it ?
I didn't think you'd come out
Well, I did make a promise with you before didn't i ?
It was fun ~
Eh ... ?
Really ?
He still remembers ?

Somehow I feel

But won't it die down eventually?

That's alright–
I can do that after he leaves

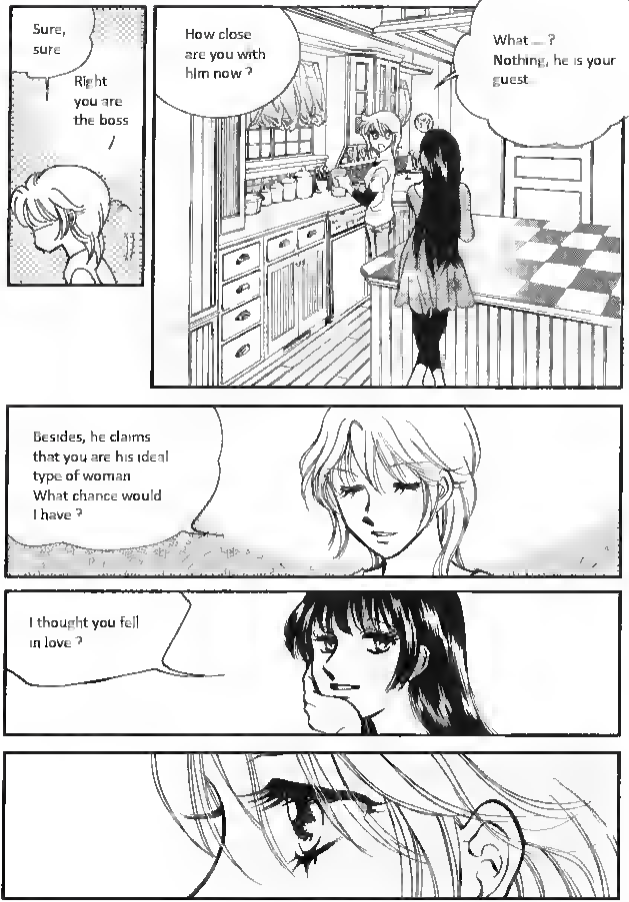
I couldn't fall asleep, so I tried to continue with my current plot assignment, but I couldn't do that, either.

Oh, the scent of fall
Sitting in one place for 10 hours is just too much.

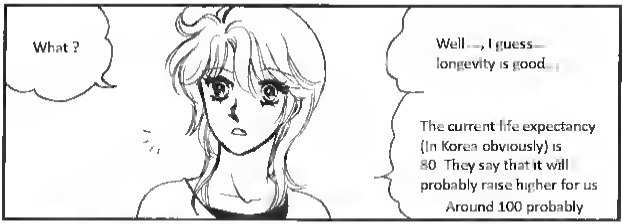
Yeah, it's really boring here. I am here to take just few pictures
There are only two houses in my view.
I have to turn in a result to get my full payment
Not a soul is passing by. Not even a dog. This is so boring.
A cab is coming
Wait—
It's not the usual guy
I am hanging up. It's a girl !
Where is my camera. Here !
찰
칵

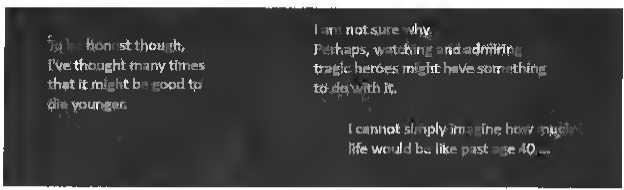
No one ?
Is Chun San out, too ?
Sera doesn't seem to be here, either
What day is today ?

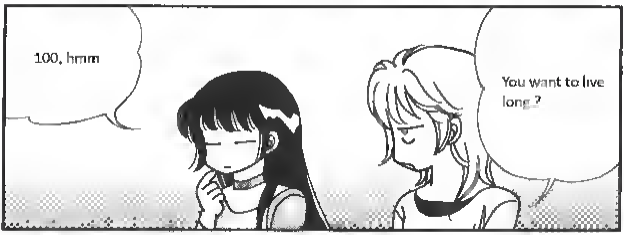
Wow, it s you !
You could have called me
How was your trip ?
Sera you seem really glad to see me
Of course, it's been quite some time
Okay then, let me taste your coffee

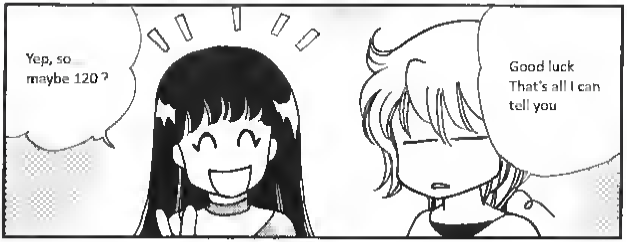

Sure, sure
Right you are the boss /
How close are you with him now ?
What ... ? Nothing, he is your guest
Besides, he claims that you are his ideal type of woman What chance would I have ?
I thought you fell in love ?

I know, but...
It's not like anything can be forced in this matter...
I suppose I can't hide from her. I might as well be honest.
Yeah, I did imply that I liked him
But that doesn't mean anything
I think I will just stay like this
JANIMES.COM
Yeah, well, that might work out better for ya
You— mean e You know well that you and I are in different situations
I am being serious I am thinking that it's your defensive mechanism
How long would you like to live, Sera?


What ?
Well..., I guess... longevity is good...
The current life expectancy (In Korea obviously) is 80. They say that it will probably raise higher for us. Around 100 probably.


To be honest though, I've thought many times that it might be good to die younger.
I am not sure why. Perhaps, watching and admiring tragic heroes might have something to do with it.
I cannot simply imagine how my life would be like past age 40...


100, hmm
You want to live long ?


Yep, so... maybe 120 ?
Good luck. That's all I can tell you

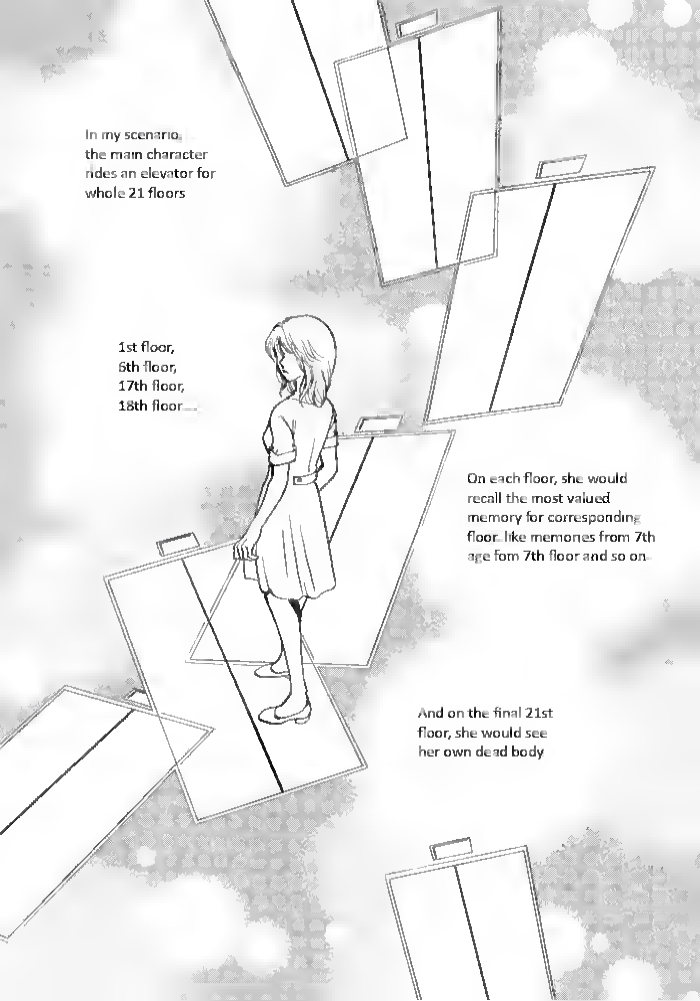
Yeah, I just wish I could live up to 120.
She called him "a jerk", eek.
Either way, if you want to live your life normally until natural causes take you away, you've better not hang out with a jerk like Chun San.
What do you mean ?
You said that his ideal type of woman is me.
Do you know what kind of woman he is looking for ?

His ideal type of woman is...
A girl who can commit suicide with h m.
Are you willing to do that ?

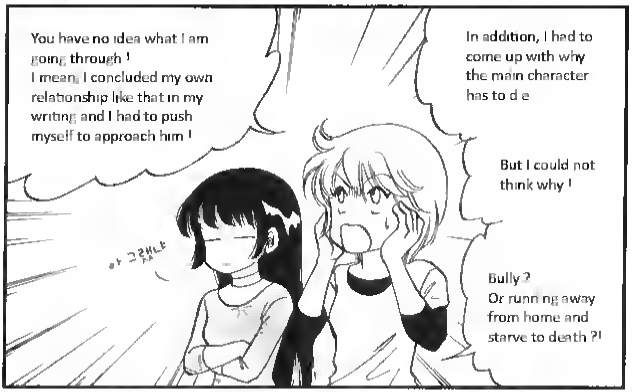
One of his girlfriends did comit suicide.
What ... ?
If you want to live long, he is not someone you should get close to
Didn't you feel some sort of danger from him ?
I think you'd have felt

Still, you couldn't resist being drawn to him, right ?
I don t know ...
What you are saying is too... surreal
Like your own scenario ?
What?
You l... you saw my writing ?

Yes I had a chance to look while looking around the phone
Are you making a movie out of it ? Want me to be your investor ?
It means nothing ! It's just my habit !
You were dead on the 21st floor.
The main cast is not me...
She is just a fictional main character
And the plot is not complete


In my scenario,
the main character
rides an elevator for
whole 21 floors
1st floor,
6th floor,
17th floor,
18th floor...
On each floor, she would
recall the most valued
memory for corresponding
floor. like memories from 7th
age fom 7th floor and so on.
And on the final 21st
floor, she would see
her own dead body

It meant nothing personally
You know death has the most impact on viewers
Just like what you told me about Chun San


You have no idea what I am going through !
I mean, I concluded my own relationship like that in my writing and I had to push myself to approach him !
In addition, I had to come up with why the main character has to d e
But I could not think why !
Bully ?
Or running away from home and starve to death ?!

Well.. people in our age fear death but at the same time we worship death
Not you at least

I am tired
I am going to bed
Oh ?
oh, okay
She changed the subject
Um, wait...
But I have to ask...
So, you knew what kind of person he was, and yet you expected me to fall in love with him ?
Sure. I did
It's just like what you said
No one can control feelings
All I know is-

When someone likes someone else, there are always unknown factors that contribute~
Like ~ what ?
If you don't know, how should I know ?
Maybe, he was your former lover in your former life
I am going to sleep ~

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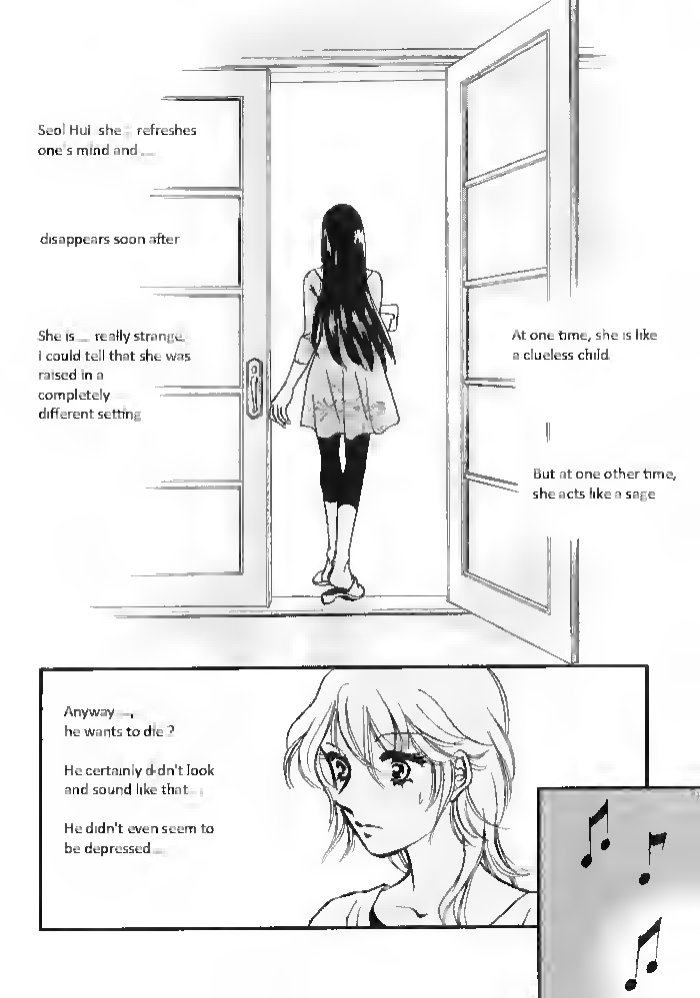
Seol Hui she refreshes one's mind and
disappears soon after
She is really strange. I could tell that she was raised in a completely different setting
At one time, she is like a clueless child
But at one other time, she acts like a sage
Anyway, he wants to die ?
He certainly didn't look and sound like that
He didn't even seem to be depressed

A phone call now__?
Gaming
Hello Yunah
Sera !
Do you have any idea who he is ?!
Pardon ? Who ?
That Haruyama Arashi guy !
So you don't know hm, do you !
? He is a Japanese-Korean.
So, you don't know
When I saw him, I felt that he looked awfully similar to Sei, and then I felt that his name was familiar, so I went on searching on the internet
You know he-

What ?!
A Japanese rock musician ?
Yeah go to my website now
Okay I am in front of my laptop right now
See my newest blog.
I wrote that I met someone who look similar to Sei
'Arashi' sounded familar, so I searched
He was once a vocal for a band called DMD
He is not working for any band right now though.

Are you listen ng Sera ?
What a coincidence would this be ? Someone like that is staying in your home !
Wait ...
It's Seol Hui s home
So what ? It makes no difference
Hey, let me see him again
Hey, thanks for the info ... I have to ... hang up now Talk to you ... later
Oh, okay

Double shock !

A rock band DMD ?
타닥

I searched the internet, but I could not find much info. Perhaps, it has something to do with DMD being too old and
It being foreign.

The band's name is DMD. It started in 1996, they release a sum of 3 albums, the first two album were hit hits. The band disbanded in 2000 due to conflicts between band members.
And on a website, I read a news article about him and his girlfriend commit suicide but only the girl died

부웅
Hey, you haven't went to bed, yet ?
Seol Hui is back.

What ? Really ?
I should have come home earlier
She is sleeping now Don t you dare waking her up
I won t
What's wrong, Sera ?
Why are you angry ?

It has nothing to do with you. I am just angry. That's all
I guess you are leaving as soon as you are done with her ?
Who knows
It's my own affair
Though what's with you ?
Just like you said it's my own affair as well
Good night

Suicide or whatnot

Famous or not

Former lover or whatnot

The hell

Everyone's into their own fantasy

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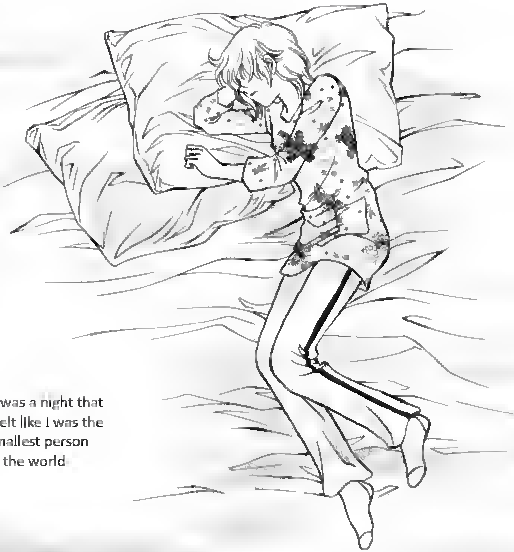
In the end, all these have nothing to do with me.

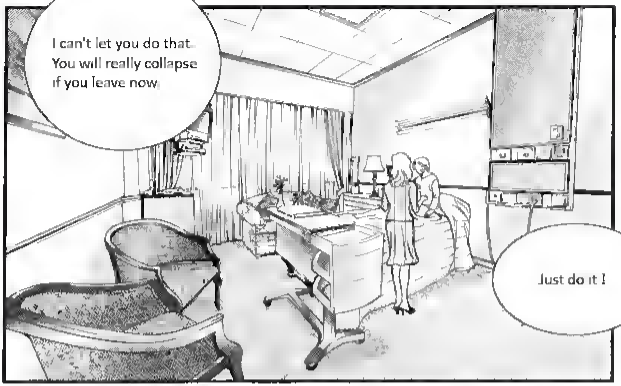
I wasn't scared of some
suicide

What concerned me
was that neither Seol Hui
and Chun San had nothing
to do with me
They were in completely
different worlds

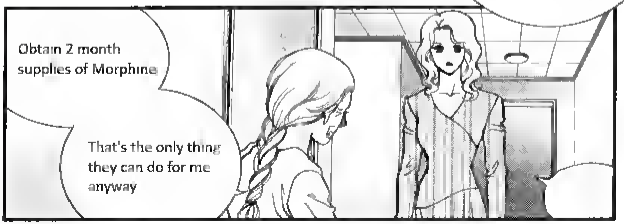


It was a night that
I felt like I was the
smallest person
in the world

This is the enlarged photo
Get me out of here ASAP
Pardon?


I can't let you do that. You will really collapse if you leave now.
Just do it !

I was sentenced 6 months of life and 4 months passed. I have nothing to lose.
And hire a private nurse who will not expose anything. Money is not an issue.


Obtain 2 month supplies of Morphine.
That's the only thing they can do for me anyway.

And get me a ticket to Korea

My swollen face reflected my mood last night.

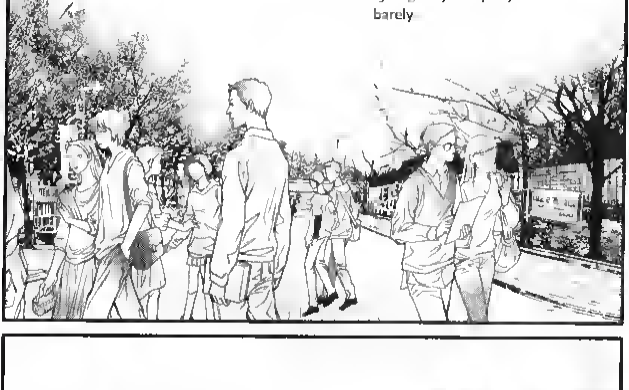
But resting in sunshine like this has made me relaxed

Still, there was this sense of unrest in a corner of my mind...

Just... what am I doing?

Others have... goals... they live every day and become closer to whatever goals they have.

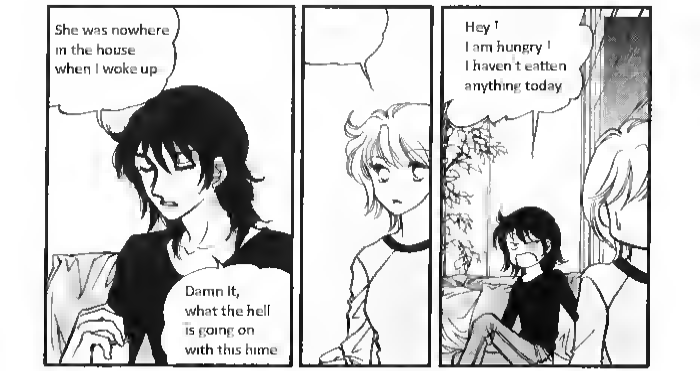
What am I doing though? I just get by every day barely.



I think the reason I had my main character dead was because

I feel as if my future is as good as being dead

Welcome back.
Where is Seol Hui?


She was nowhere in the house when I woke up
Damn it, what the hell is going on with this time
Hey! I am hungry! I haven't eatten anything today

Cook yourself
You are an adult
Really ?
I thought I d let you do it, you know to practice to become a wife.
Forget it !
Seol Hui told you something didn't she
Tell me
She told me things I could hardly understand.
And it had nothing to do with me so I am trying to forget it.
I don't know why you are trying to do what you are trying to do but the world isn t always full of gloom

Is that so ?
Where are good stuff in this world?
Well ... good food ... traveling the world ... and ... and ...
Friends, family ...
Sigh yeah, yeah just get me some food ...
... And love ...

Some even claim that love can save the world.
And I suppose one will look at the world differently if one falls into love.
You sound as if you don't know the first hand
Yes, yes ! I don't know !
Is that so wrong?
I

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When I felt like I was in love, it was the first time for me to feel that the world meant something

Why am I crying though

Complicated, I see

If it were that easy, I wouldn t be thinking about ending it all

Funnily, when I heard him saying that, I felt relived because what he said indicated that he had no serious feelings toward Seol Hui

But at the same time, I realized how timid I was.

Don t think too seriously about what Yuji hime said.
It's... just some jokes we enjoy.
She s too simply I can't believe she took that seriously
I kind of agreed with him The way he talked about it seemed like he was really joking around I didn t think he'd be suicidal
Where did she go
Maybe, she really did took him too seriously

Shall we go ?
Alright
mazda

Part 4. 폭풍 End of part

화실통신

By 강me

vol 1. 음식 이야기
Vol 1_ Food story

When I am alone, I become too lazy to cook and often order a delivery.

When I am working with my assistants, it's perfectly fine to order.

But when I am alone, I feel sorry to just order one meal for me, so I order a meal for two people!

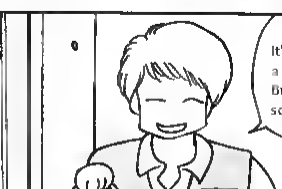
I generally save left over for later

Though often it goes wasted

Why don't I just go out and eat outside ?

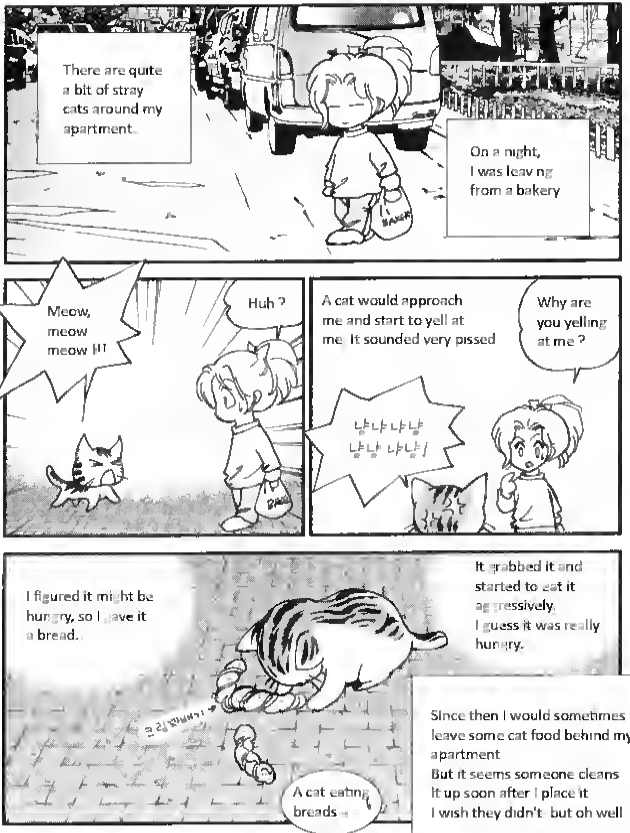
Because I am too lazy to go out !

It seems the delivery guy who just happens to own the store noticed what was going through my head.



It's perfectly fine to order a meal for just you. Business has been slow, so I welcome any orders.

Even so, I continued to order two meals.


There are quite a bit of stray cats around my apartment..
On a night, I was leaving from a bakery
Meow, meow meow !!!
Huh ?
A cat would approach me and start to yell at me. It sounded very pissed
Why are you yelling at me ?
냠냐냐냠 냠냠냐냐!
I figured it might be hungry, so I gave it a bread..
It grabbed it and started to eat it aggressively. I guess it was really hungry.
A cat eating breads
SInce then I would sometimes leave some cat food behind my apartment
But it seems someone cleans It up soon after I place it
I wish they didn't. but oh well

My current apartment complex is well known for it's nice view. It does have a very nice view.

Nice view, with no tall builds

One of dowaside of this nice view is that moisture becomes a serious issue after rain and during summer

Papers get the worst

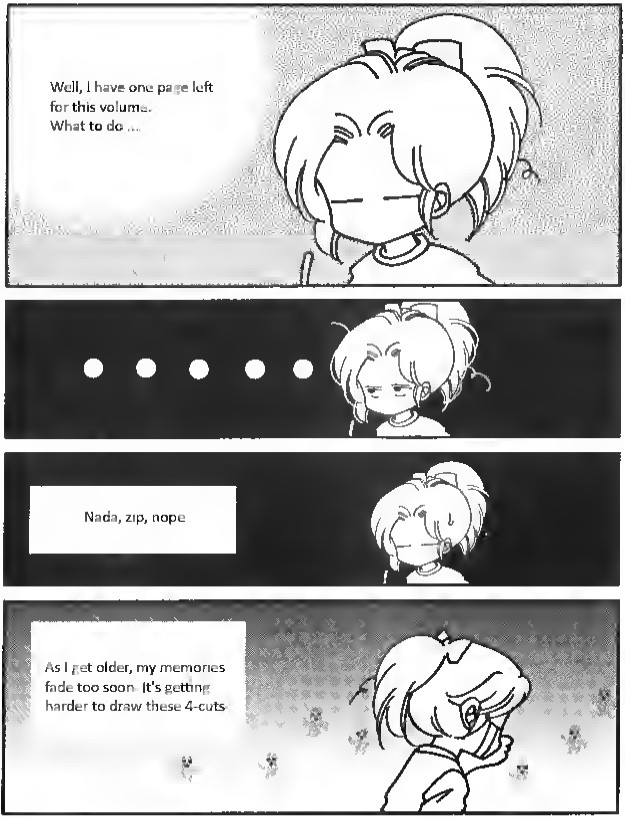
During summer, I can't dare to open windows because even more moisture would enter
And it is not hot enough to turn on A.C.

dehumidifier on !

It clearly shows how indecisive I am

To be or not to be

What to do —


Well, I have one page left for this volume. What to do ...
Nada, zip, nope
As I get older, my memories fade too soon. It's getting harder to draw these 4-cuts.

Scanned (Yes, scanned), edited, and translated
by Sura (Klisis) at JanimeS

Do not upload my projects to ad-ridden manga-sharing sites.

설희 4

JANIMES.COM
초판인쇄 2009년 8월 24일
초판발행 2009년 8월 31일

지은이 강경옥
펴낸이 이인무
책임편집 이성욱 장인숙
디자인 유성미

펴낸곳 씨네21(주)
출판등록 2005년 3월 25일 제313-2005-000054호
주소 121-750 서울시 마포구 공덕동 116-25 한겨레신문사 4층
전화 02-6377-0500
팩스 02-6377-0505
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ISBN 978-89-93208-48-7 07810
978-89-93208-06-5 (세트)